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LIBRARY WORK WITH CHILDREN.

APRIL, 1900.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOL. 25.

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ALL indications point to a large meeting of the American Library Association in June, perhaps not setting a record figure, but going much beyond the attendance at the Atlanta meeting of 1899, which was necessarily influenced by the distance and the cost of the journey. Montreal is more easily reached from those sections where librarians do most abound, and the trip possesses so many attractive features, in addition to its professional interest, that a thoroughly representative attendance may be looked for. The main features of the conference are outlined elsewhere, and it will be seen that the program has been planned with a fair appreciation of the varying phases of work that are now represented in the library field. This perhaps opens the way to the criticism that with so wide a variety of subjects consideration of each must generally be superficial, yet this is not justified by results. It is better that every one should have a little than that a few should have a great deal and many be disappointed, while the opportunities for personal discussion given by the post-conference and the travel arrangements make it possible for those interested in a subject to carry its consideration much beyond the limits of the program. A sarcastic observer at one of the transatlantic library meetings suggested that such conferences should in future be divided into two sections: one devoted to a Hall of Rhetoric where aspiring speakers might give full rein to their eloquence, the other to a series of short meetings for the informal discussion of matters of general interest. The American meetings have always inclined toward the latter method, and of recent years this tendency has been more and more developed. It has its disadvantages, but on the whole it has more than proved its value in fostering a genuine *esprit de corps* and giving direct help and inspiration along many diverse lines.

PERHAPS the most important subject to come before the Montreal conference is that of co-

operative cataloging, on which the Co-operation Committee will submit a report. This question is clearly one which will never be downed save by solution, for it is felt that the economic waste of duplicate cataloging is contrary to the spirit of an age whose watchword is "combination in order to save operating expenses." The invention of the linotype and the improvements in electrotyping having cleared away many of the obstacles to cheap production and distribution, the committee has, as mentioned elsewhere, taken up the discussion of the matter again. The new features proposed include the numbering and filing of electrotypes and the publication of a cumulative linotype index, thus making possible the purchase by individual libraries of only the cards needed, and only at the time when needed — a provision that would seem to do away with the chief obstacle to practical success. The hesitation of libraries to use a form of card not exactly like their present style of entry or printing is hardly an insurmountable difficulty in the way of co-operation. The waste of the present method will be too obvious for library authorities to tolerate, if a better method can be established. If any libraries do prefer to duplicate according to their own method, they can, of course, do so; but for libraries not too much handicapped by present stock and inflexibility of method, the system, if put in operation, should be an immediate advantage. It is to be hoped that the committee having found the method, may find also the capital and co-operation to justify it in putting the matter through on a large enough scale to insure definite and final success.

ANOTHER subject that will engage attention at Montreal is that of library work with children, to be considered in a special session arranged under the direction of Miss Plummer. It was at first suggested that a section should be created for this subject, but it was thought that general treatment of the topic in a special session possessed advantages over the section

plan. This is one of the comparatively new phases of library activity, a phase that has developed with great rapidity, and that affords abundant material for thought and discussion. Children's work can be taken up as a fad, it can be emphasized unduly in its relation to the library as a whole, it can be weakened by ill-judged enthusiasm or sentimentality; but the principles underlying it are good and permanent ones, and it has its place as a legitimate department of the public library. No one who has watched the work of a children's department, developed under wise and careful guidance, can fail to realize that the good it does is hardly computable, and that it is laying a foundation that must count for much in character building. A real love of books is one of the best helps over the stony places of life, and the children's library can bring this kindly influence into the lives of many. It can do much, too, to awaken an appreciation of beauty, in art and nature, and to minimize if not to banish the spirit of social vulgarity, and the low ideals that permeate so much of the literature designed for children. This form of library work is given special representation in the present number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, and the admirable article of Miss Moore, with the related papers—all based upon practical experience—bring out principles and suggestions that may be profitably continued in discussion at Montreal.

ONE of the notable library events of the present year is to be noted in the formal opening of the new Providence Public Library building last month. To the planning and the perfecting of this building Mr. Foster has given unremitting thought and energy for several years past, and his devotion is now rewarded by the completion of a structure in which the Providence library will find full opportunity for rounded development, and one that adds a worthy example to American library architecture. The building in its final form has been greatly modified from the preliminary plans as made public over three years ago, and it is hoped to give in an early issue of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* a full presentation of its important features. Mr. Foster has earned the sincere appreciation of his fellows for his many services to the library cause, and he is to be congratulated on the outcome of his efforts in the field of library architecture.

Communications.

TYPEWRITERS IN LIBRARIES.

I AM glad to furnish Mr. Stetson or any others who may be interested in the subject with the results of our experiments in typewriters. When we first thought of typewriting catalog cards I had a thorough test made of the comparative merits of the Hammond and the Remington for this work. The decision was an unqualified preference for the Remington. Several years afterwards, about seven years ago, we made the same thorough comparison of the Remington with the Smith-Premier, and with the same result. In the beginning the Remington card attachment was made by the local mechanic, and was of rather crude construction. They now furnish with all machines a complete card attachment, which works easily and satisfactorily. If any one has found a typewriter better than the Remington I should like to hear of it. F. M. CRUNDEN.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, {
St. Louis, Mo. }

FOR THE REFORM OF REVIEWERS.

In the February issue of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* Mr. A. E. Bostwick makes some suggestions in his contribution to "What shall librarians read" on the subject of book reviews.

Mr. Bostwick's idea of a review periodical conducted for librarians by librarians is an excellent one, but so large a one that I am not sure he expected any one to take him seriously. Yet it seems to me so important that it would be well to exhaust the subject before abandoning it. Such a review, indeed, might in part be a digest of reviews, *i. e.*, when a review appeared which covered the requirements, quote that, and so wherever possible avoid expenditure of unnecessary force.

Ambitious as it may seem to send into the world a new review, it would be a modest undertaking in comparison with a task which would have for its object the reform of reviewers. However, I have the temerity to offer a suggestion which savors of some such purpose, but will modestly put it in the form of a question: Would it not be well to bring up, at the next meeting of the A. L. A. in June, the question as to the advisability of issuing a circular which would set forth, in a brief and summarized form, what librarians want to know when they read reviews, and let the circular further express the hope that reviewers will, so far as possible, cover these points? Send to editors of reviews the request that those circulars, which would be supplied them by the A. L. A., be placed in all review copies. We could not hope that these little circulars would revolutionize things, but they would serve as a gentle reminder that there is a large body of people to whom it is of some importance whether the reviewer writes with a flippant disregard or with a desire to be helpful. HELEN MAROT.

315 N. 33d street, {
Philadelphia. }

THE PLACE OF PICTURES IN LIBRARY WORK FOR CHILDREN.

BY ANNIE CARROLL MOORE, *Pratt Institute Free Library.*

Side by side with the need for a collection of good books in a children's library there exists also the need for a collection of good pictures.

In a children's library there is the same desire for beauty and the same lack of desire, the same appreciation of beauty and the same lack of appreciation that we find everywhere else in the world. But in the children's library there are certainly revealed unusual possibilities and opportunities for bringing children into closer relationship with books and with the world about them, by means of the wise and discriminating selection and use of pictures.

It is a well-established fact that a great many books have been written to pictures. The recent edition of "Alice in Wonderland," illustrated by Blanche McManus, has brought home to many of us, for the first time perhaps, the debt of gratitude we owe to Sir John Tenniel, who made the real "Alice" just as Lewis Carroll wanted him to. Many of Jacob Abbott's books were written to pictures, selected from a miscellaneous collection of old engravings. Mrs. Ewing's stories were also written to pictures. Other writers might be mentioned, but these three will suffice, and their books may well find a place on the reading-list of the picture worker. I think she would get from them more real inspiration for the kind of work she will have to do with pictures than from the conscientious perusal of such a book as M. S. Emery's "How to enjoy pictures," useful as this may be found for occasional reference. Our picture collections should then include, if possible, a few pictures which have real art value, and to these we should give permanent places upon the walls, that the children may see them often enough to care for them and to associate them with their own room; these pictures should also furnish us with standards of value in the development of picture bulletins and picture exhibitions. The bulk of the picture collection will consist of a large and growing miscellaneous collection, made up of a great variety of reproductions gathered together from many sources; reproductions without especial merit in themselves, but which shall prove of inestimable value in putting the children into closer relationships with the books of their library and with the affairs of the world.

I. PERMANENT PICTURES IN A CHILDREN'S LIBRARY.

Pictures which are to hold permanent places in a children's library should be selected with great care and with reference to widely different tastes, for, unlike the books, pictures do not wear out nor does the impression, if any impression is made, fade from the memory.

That it is the subject of the picture, rather than the color, the size, or the mode of artistic treatment, which appeals to children, it seems quite safe to assert in the light of rather exceptional opportunities for observation of this kind. It does not follow, however, that children enjoy only story-telling pictures. They are very sensitive to the atmosphere of pictures; effects of sunset, moonlight, and mist appeal to them strongly. They love pictures of green fields and woods, because these stand for the real country to those who have been there and for what the country is like to those who have not. It is not necessary to put a cow into the field nor a great brown bear at the entrance of the woods, nor even to depict a squirrel on the tree trunk, in order to interest children in pictures of fields and woods, provided the atmosphere be right. As proof of this may be evidenced the interest taken by the children in an exhibition of landscape paintings by Mr. Arthur Dow, shown at the Pratt Institute Free Library during May and June, 1899.

Exhibitions of Tiffany glass, pottery, and mosaics; rugs, textiles, and paintings, have been held in the library building during the past three years. Children have visited and enjoyed these exhibitions. The Denton collection of butterflies and Miss Alden's dolls were probably the most popular exhibitions; but the pictures which the children liked best and asked to see again and again were Mr. Dow's pictures of green fields and woods, hay-fields with the sunset and moonlight upon them, and the harvest moon reflected in the sea.

Many of the children brought their fathers and mothers and their brothers and sisters, as well as their friends, to see them.

The finest tribute paid by any visitor to the exhibition was the unconscious one of a little girl eleven years old. There was a daisy field among the pictures, painted on a burning-hot

day when the daisies bloomed so thick as to make one spreading mass of white under the blue sky and beside the blue water. Several grown people had asked if it was a picture of the seashore, supposing the daisies to be sand or clam shells.

"Why, why!" exclaimed the little girl, "there's my daisy field, the one I used to play in when I lived in the country. I've often told people how thick the daisies grew there, so thick you couldn't see the grass some days, and they would just laugh and say, 'that's a flower story,' but they'll have to believe me now, for here's a picture to show them. Do you suppose the man who made the picture used to play in my field when he was a little boy?"

That children are interested in pictures which show life, action, courage and daring on land and sea we all know, and we should satisfy the desire by at least one fine picture of this kind. Portraits of great men and women interest them even before the characters are made known to them through the stories of their lives. If we needed proof of this taste the Hero Exhibition would furnish abundant evidence.

We need also among the permanent pictures of the children's room a constant reminder of the sacred claims of all children—the average, the commonplace, the uninteresting child, as well as the child of humblest birth—to tender, respectful, and reverent treatment at our hands. I would rather not make a choice of the Madonna picture; it should be one of the old ones, and one the children would love and remember, but it should also be one whose presence would mean much to the children's librarian.

The baby's corner of the children's room, if there be one, should have its permanent pictures also, and among them should be some of the charming colored prints of Boutet de Monvel and Randolph Caldecott, to be found among the books of their illustrating. "Filles et garçons" and "Nos enfants," by Anatole France, are perhaps the most suitable and quite the most reasonable in price of the De Monvel books. These books may be had at \$1.20 each. The full-page pictures may be taken from the books without injury to the text. Of the Caldecott books the "Farmer's boy," "House that Jack built," and "Sing-a-song o' sixpence," are very suitable for the purpose. They may be had in a paper edition for 25 cents each. With such a mine of wealth as we find in the work of these two artists alone there is no room for the Maud Humphrey school. The "Cunning tots," with

their pink and white pasty faces, their yellow curls, and their ruffled clothes, have no real interest for children. The color is the only thing about these pictures that children seem to care for, and they soon tire of that, but they would not tire I am sure of Jackanape's "Ride across Goose Green," by Caldecott, nor of the "flock of birds in the sky," as they call it, among the De Monvel pictures.

The following list gives some pictures and plaster casts suggested for a permanent place in a children's library:

Pictures.

St. George and the dragon, by Frémiet.
Sir Galahad, by Watts.
Portrait of Sir Walter Scott.
Automedon with the horses of Achilles, by Regnault.
The Dance of the nymphs, by Corot.
Autumn, a drawing by Millet.
The Shaw monument, by St. Gaudens.
Colored prints from the books illustrated by Boutet de Monvel, Randolph Caldecott, and Kate Greenaway.

Plaster Casts.

Portions of the Parthenon frieze, showing horses and riders.
The Winged Victory of Samothrace.
The Hermes of Praxiteles (bust).
Bust of Socrates.
The Singing boys of Della Robbia.
The David of Mercié.

II. THE MISCELLANEOUS COLLECTION OF PICTURES WHICH IS TO FURNISH MATERIAL FOR EXHIBITIONS AND BULLETINS.

Three years ago it was necessary for libraries to advertise for or to solicit copies of illustrated papers and magazines and to buy many duplicates for clipping for their picture work. The sources from which a good working collection of pictures can now be obtained have become so numerous that it is difficult and perhaps unnecessary to take account of all the new reproductive processes.

A list of the principal sources of supply, with some valuable information concerning mounting materials and the care of pictures, is to be found in an admirable little pamphlet, called "Pictures for reference use," published by the Wisconsin Free Library Commission in 1899. The first edition of this handbook is now out of print, but it is to be hoped that a new edition will be printed. I do not feel that any one of the reproductive processes, such as the Perry prints or the Brown prints, nor indeed all of the special reproductions taken together, could ever fill the place of a miscellaneous collection of clippings gathered from old and new papers

and magazines. There is variety and suggestiveness to the worker in many of the old prints and woodcuts which are reproduced in so many different ways, and there is always the joy of coming upon the unexpected in strange places.

Concerning the uses to which pictures may be put, some valuable and interesting suggestions have been made in papers upon picture exhibitions and bulletins, others have been embodied in articles upon children's library work in general. Most practical suggestions have been furnished during the past year by the monthly bulletins of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. With so many sources known to us from which material may be gathered, with so many suggestions for the use of pictures showered upon us, it would seem wise before we go further to pause long enough to establish firmly the governing principles of this work, to prove that picture bulletins and picture exhibitions are not mere fads in children's library work that rightly conceived and carefully executed this work has its legitimate source and origin in the needs of children as manifested in their libraries.

Some distinction should be drawn, I think, between the picture bulletin and the picture exhibition. A picture bulletin usually presents subjects of timely rather than of permanent interest. It may and often does present a miscellaneous collection of subjects, which may or may not be related to one another, or it may present some one subject and only one at a time. The latter method is the one which has always been followed in our bulletin work.

Our exhibition of animal pictures last fall was accompanied by a bulletin on the opening of the New York Zoological Park. Pictures of the bear-dens, the reptile-houses, and the deer-ranges were combined with a letter of invitation to the children to visit the park from Mr. Hornaday, the director, and two or three newspaper clippings of description, the whole occupying the space of a bulletin board 38 x 28 in.

The picture exhibition should present subjects of permanent rather than of transient and partial interest; several subjects may be presented at a time, or one subject only may be presented, the various parts of which shall be so carefully developed and the pictures so skillfully grouped, either by families, as in the case of birds or animals; by characteristics, as in the case of heroic characters; by periods of time, as in the case of historical subjects — that the parts of the subject most closely related shall

be brought together or so contrasted as to suggest points of likeness or of difference. An exhibition would occupy the entire wall space.

Both the picture exhibition and the picture bulletin should be accompanied by descriptive text and a reading-list if the object of bringing the children into close relationship with the books is to be completely secured. The preparation of such material in the case of the exhibition justifies the expenditure of much time and thought, since the same exhibition may be used year after year with slight changes and modifications. There is danger in the making of picture bulletins and exhibitions if the work be done solely or even chiefly with a view to attracting children or grown people to the library, rather than with the idea of awakening and sustaining a genuine interest in the subject presented. It is an age of special sales and of popular exhibits; the same spirit which pervades the department store and the so-called art or industrial exhibition, overcrowding both with the useful and the beautiful, the useless and the ugly, without distinction and without differentiation, is creeping closer than we like to think to the threshold of the art gallery and the library.

Let us be sure first of all that our work, whether it consist of two or three cheap prints carefully selected and suitably mounted, or a room lined with fine photographs, shows a well-defined plan; that the subject whatever it may be has been thought out; that there is good reason for giving it a place on the library walls; and then let us see that it is well placed.

"Work," says Mr. Dow in his book on "Composition in the study of art," "is of no value unless it expresses the personality of its creator;" therefore, he continues, "appreciate and originate." What is here applied to the art student applies equally to the student in other departments and especially to the children's librarian.

There is no better school for training in appreciation and adaptation than the selection and classification of a large miscellaneous collection of pictures. In doing this work one learns to appreciate its possibilities, to adapt them to one's purposes, and gain from it also a fine sense of perception of greater possibilities in this and in other departments of one's work.

If this miscellaneous collection is to serve the purposes already mentioned, and in addition is to be drawn upon for scrap books and for mounted pictures for circulation, it is necessary that it should be so classified and arranged as to make it easily accessible, but it is not at all nec-

essayary that the scheme of classification should be so definitely prescribed as to make the classifying a burden rather than a pleasure to the worker. The scheme of classification used for our picture collection is a purely arbitrary one. The material is classified under the most specific headings which the pictures or the clippings (for all text of any value, bits of verse, prose descriptions, etc., are saved) themselves suggest, the subject word chosen being written in the upper margin of the picture. The pictures are then alphabetized and placed in manila envelopes bearing corresponding subject headings. This we consider a more economical and satisfactory disposition of such material than to mount and then to classify it before a definite decision as to its use has been made.

A list of the subject headings used on the envelopes has been made upon slips, and on these slips references have been made from subjects which may or may not appear on the envelopes. It is thus possible for any one, by running over the list of subject headings, to get an idea of the variety of subjects represented and of combinations suggested by related subjects. This list is not intended for the use of the general public, but for the children's librarian, her assistants, and the student of children's work, as the following selections will show:

Alaska. *See also* Klondike.

Animals. *General.* See also Bears, Cats, Monkeys, etc., See also Zoological Gardens.

Army. *See also* Generals,

“ “ Guns,

“ “ War.

Carriages and other vehicles.

See also Royalty.

" " Old-fashioned people and things.

“ “ Automobiles, etc.

Children, pictures of them.

See also Family life,

" " Royalty.

" " Comic pictures,

“ “ Southern life, etc.

Divers and Diving.

Eskimos. *See also* Primitive peoples,

“ “ Arctic explorations.

Fall, *See also* Harvest.

“ “ Cider mills,

16 "Country life, etc.

Heroes. *See also* Public men,

Arctic explorations.

“ “ Fire and firemen, etc.

Pilgrims and Puritans.

Popes and Cardinals.

Western life, with a reference from United States, Travel and description.

There are some difficulties to be encountered in the selection and classification of pictures. There are many pictures which seem worth while to keep but which do not at once suggest a definite subject heading. It is unwise to spend time in trying to think of one. All such pictures should be put into an envelope labelled miscellany, and this collection of miscellany should be used to supplement whatever subject one may desire to illustrate. Another difficulty is, that different people looking at the same picture see different subjects. There are two ways of obviating this difficulty: the one, by putting all the picture work into the hands of one person; the other, by relying upon a large number of cross references for bringing the subjects together. A new worker is especially to be warned against forming a subject heading from a word in the title rather than from what the picture suggests. If the picture suggests nothing, beware of it.

Duplicates should always be retained, they may be used in so many different ways; for example, the picture of a Dutch woman spinning may be classified under Holland, under Spinning, and perhaps under Family life or Occupations.

Poor reproductions of fine pictures should be avoided if good ones can be had, and it will be found that there is a very great difference in such reproductions as the Perry prints and the Syracuse blue prints. They should therefore be selected with great care. Then there are pictures which are uninteresting, commonplace, and even vulgar; pictures which are too realistic, and pictures which are merely *sweet*, and in considering all of these we should daily remind ourselves of the purpose of this picture work. The most satisfactory statement of this purpose, it seems to me, is to be found in the words of a little boy eight years old who had just visited Glen Island, with its museum and animal garden. This little boy had never learned to read easily, but for nearly two years had been a constant visitor at the library and was never so happy, apparently, as when looking at pictures and talking about them. He said: "The reason why I liked Glen Island so much was because things *came real* there—the things I used to see pictures of in books, I mean, and the things we used to talk about sometimes. I used to wonder if they would ever come real and now I know about some of 'em and I'm going to see the rest some day."

PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOKS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.*

BY HENRY L. ELMENDORF, *Superintendent Buffalo Public Library.*

As has been stated, the only defense of compulsory tax support of the free public library is that it makes, or aids in making, good citizens. If this be the purpose of the library, there will be no difference of opinion on the proposition that its influence should begin with the child as young as possible. It will not be disputed that as the children are brought together in the public schools in larger numbers than in any other place or manner, and under the most favorable conditions to receive instruction, in fact, for that very purpose, the library should not fail to take advantage of this opportunity to bring its influence to bear. It follows then that the relations between the school and the library should be as intimate, and their co-operation as perfect, as possible.

The free public library is comparatively a new factor in education. In some cases it is an outgrowth of the public school library, and under the control of the board of education. This system of control has not always proved a happy one for the library, because the education of children is not the only function of the public library, and when the entire aim of two institutions is not identical, co-operation is better than unification. In many more cases the superintendent of public instruction is a member of the board of control of the library, either *ex officio*, or by election. This is as it should be, but the connection should be made still closer by appointing the librarian a member of the school board. Each institution would then have representation in the board of control of the other, and each would be represented by its executive officer. Executive representation would be the very best, because the questions which arise upon which practical advice from the point of view of the fellow institution would be valuable, would naturally be those of method and detail, rather than of general policy.

The advance toward co-operation must naturally come from the library as the younger, but more particularly as the less understood institution. It is perfectly obvious that unless the librarian has the co-operation of the superin-

tendent of education, principals, and teachers, his efforts will be useless, and worse than useless—wasted. To secure this necessary co-operation, the librarian must have something definite to offer. He cannot induce teachers to adopt his plans because it would be a good thing for the library, and a method of increasing its circulation. He will, indeed, need to be able to meet the objection on the part of some teachers that his plans for co-operation are but a plausible scheme for making them do his work. Again, it is not wise, and certainly not necessary, to offer a new set of school readers or text-books, even under the attractive name of supplementary reading. Such books should be a part of the regular school curriculum, and should be provided in the same way as other text-books, by the school authorities or private purchase. All required reading is essentially a part of the school curriculum, and should be definitely considered in making up grade work. Very certain it is that the teacher should not be promised through the library a new system of rewards and punishments. While the wise teacher will seek to regulate the pupil's reading, and while she may even think it necessary to cut down the amount in certain cases, she will no more think of depriving the child of his library book on account of a breach of discipline than of taking away his text-books for the same reason.

What, then, has the library to offer to the school to enlist the interest of the teachers, to make them *want* the library, to induce them to undertake the work necessary to care for and keep track of the books and provide the very few, but very necessary, statistics which the library must have? It seems necessary to digress here long enough to explain the reason why the library cannot forego the few statistics which it requires. It is the very simple one that appropriations of money are dependent upon demonstrable results, and definite figures obtained from trustworthy records of use are the only results which can be shown.

You can safely say, *First*, that the library will add to the attractiveness of the class-room. Every teacher wants her pupils to love to come to school, and knows that it is far easier to teach

* Read at joint meeting of N. Y. State Library Association and N. Y. Library Club, New York, March 8, 1900.

happy, interested children, than impatient or listless ones. The library will add interest. It will help to make the school-room a place of joy and happiness.

Second: The library will incite to interest in and make more easy the course of study. It will illustrate and explain the subjects taken up.

Third: It will increase the mind capacity of the pupils, increasing their ability to acquire knowledge.

Fourth: It will establish a new relation between pupil and teacher, a more personal relation; one in which the one in command gives place to the counsellor and friend.

Fifth: Good teachers regret that they have to deal with their classes *en masse*; that they have to hew all to a line—to form all in the same mould. Here is something that will foster individuality without interfering with routine. Here is the opportunity for the child of exceptional abilities to rise above the level insisted upon in school, and to receive help, stimulus, and instruction in the line of his individual taste. Here is a means by which the teacher may discover a taste or capacity in the child, which, wisely fed, may illuminate not only his school life, but his whole existence.

There are many other advantages which can be urged in definite cases where generalities are not enough; when you are not attempting to establish a proposition or theory, but seeking to awaken individual interest, and each such case will call for specific consideration and application.

This work can be best done by the public library, because the library is a single-headed institution, and because the librarian should know most about the general subject of children's books and children's reading. He will also have at hand the means for the economical purchase of books and the trained force to prepare them for use. If it is a question of money, and the library cannot afford to send books to the schools, there should be a readjustment of appropriations. This is not usually difficult to secure, provided you have the hearty co-operation of both school and library authorities. Moreover, this poverty objection is seldom valid, because it is neither necessary nor wise to begin on a large scale. A single school or a single class-room supplied with a well-chosen library will serve as a start. If it is successful the system cannot fail to

grow, and if it is demanded, the funds for maintenance will be forthcoming.

When the preliminaries are arranged, the wise librarian will make all his plans and arrangements as simple as possible. The work of the teacher must be made light by the very simplest of records—*e. g.*, an alphabetic list of the books with space for the name of the pupil, date taken and date returned, or simpler still, a slip with place for number, author, title, pupil's name, date of drawing, and date of return, made up into pads. The pupil can fill out such a slip himself, and hang it on a hook on the teacher's desk. These can be taken off as the books are returned, and saved for the library records. All statistics should be gathered and tabulated by the library, and not be required of the teacher. Not only should the work be made light for the teacher, but the responsibility also. Rules for the use of the books should be of the teacher's making. Let it be understood that the books are for use, and use in every way the teacher thinks best, to be read in the school, in the class, by the teacher or taken home; that reasonable care should be taken of them, but no more than of any school property; and that if loss or damage occurs, there is no money liability for the teacher.

The selection of books can best be made in consultation with the teacher. It is possible, however, that the library may have to make up the first collection. When these are sent to the class-room, it should be made plain that if any of the books are found unsuitable, that they will be changed; that the library has many more books on the same subjects, and that any special books the teacher wants will be added. In short, the teachers should be made to know that the library means to work with them according to their needs, and has no ironclad system to impose. The books should be chosen with a full knowledge of the course of study and with some reference thereto—with reference to the age of the pupils and their intelligence as to books and reading. A class of children from a poor community or of foreign parentage will require simpler books than a class of equal age and school grade from a neighborhood where books abound in the homes.

Fortunately, as the number of books it is possible to send to a class-room, and that can be used to advantage, is necessarily very limited, the disputed question of general book selection

need not trouble us. It is not a question of the exclusion of immoral books, nor, in fact, the exclusion of anything. It is rather the selection of the best for the purpose desired. What constitutes a good book for children is a subject in regard to which the library brethren are apt to prefer to generalize. Courting criticism for enlightenment, some of the definite characteristics which it seems proper to consider in school selection are here given:

First: The book should be attractive in appearance, including letter-press, illustrations, condition and binding.

Second: It should be in good English. This includes not only correct grammar, well-chosen words and perfect sentences, but words and style suited to the matter. This would eliminate entirely history in words of one syllable and most of the written-down rehash of great authors.

Third: The matter should be of interest to children. It should touch their previous knowledge or experience somewhere.

Fourth: The books must be true. Not necessarily fact, for fancy and fable may be as true as the figures which cannot lie, but what they pretend to be. Animals may talk, as in the "Jungle book," but in a book on nature study, the caterpillar should not meditate on its next metamorphosis, or the peach tree plan for the distribution of its pits.

Fifth: Closely connected with the above is the requirement that the books shall be true to life and morals. Not necessarily teaching patriotism, respect for parents, teachers and superiors, truth and the like, but rather taking the excellence of these things for granted. Seeking for the best in this way will exclude the class of books which make it seem "smart" to lie, to cheat, and to get ahead of those in authority, as well as those which tell of the good little prigs who convert whole neighborhoods, beginning with their fathers.

Sixth: In fairy tales, horrors for the sake of horror should be avoided, more particularly fleshly horrors, like the story of the little girl's nose that grew to the proportion of an elephant's trunk, and the giant who provided soup meat by knocking his head against a stationary meat hook, ghoul stories and the like. Stories of cruel step-mothers and wicked uncles are surely not the best to give children who may have step-mothers or uncles for guardians.

Seventh: In poetry for children the search

for the best will exclude the subjective poetry for which portrays only the sentiments and emotions of parents. The class-room library should contain a liberal supply of poetry, presenting vivid pictures and sentences which can be acted out. A simple trial will convince you how strong is the child's instinctive love of rhythm, and how much children appreciate the very best. There are many excellent collections, such as "Verse and prose for beginners," Lucas's "Poetry for children," and Repplier's "Book of famous verse," which may be considered better than the collected works of individual poets. Care should be taken that the compiler's name and the publisher's imprint give guarantee for the purity of the text.

These are only a few of the tests that may be applied in this search for the best. The wise librarian will think of many others which apply to his own circumstances and environment. The aim should be to secure the best books, not so much to add to the number of facts the pupil has, as to the cultivation of his capacity to learn, his love of books and his taste for good books. Lists and catalogs of books are useful, as reminders to teachers, but of little value to pupils, who should see and handle the books themselves, choose them themselves. They should have the benefit of the education and pleasure which choice for themselves gives, the "paternalism" being exercised to give them only the best to choose from.

The statement has often been made by careful compilers of school statistics that more than half our school children drop out of school before the age of 12. This is certainly true in Buffalo. Those entering the first grade in 1892 numbered 9601. Five years after only 3750 entered the sixth grade. The class that entered the first grade in 1889 numbering 8465, entered the ninth grade with only 1668 children. This clearly shows that if we are to do anything for the great majority, we must do it in the lower grades. If we can only teach the children who leave school so early to love good books before they go, let them know that these books may be had from the public library after the school days are over, the matter of how much information of other sorts we have helped to give is of insignificant importance.

In conclusion, I wish to add that for myself I believe that this work is better worth the doing than any other the library does.

WORK WITH CHILDREN AT THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH.

BY FRANCES JENKINS OLCOTT, *Chief of Children's Department.*

THE Carnegie Library has now before it the problem of reaching and influencing the 70,000 children of Pittsburgh, the city covering an area of 28 square miles, the branch libraries being far apart and at some distance from the central library. Our aim is in time to bring every child in street or alley directly or indirectly under the influence of good books. To do this it is necessary to depend not entirely on the children's rooms, of which we have already four; one reading-room, and three branch children's rooms, with two more to be opened in the spring. These reach comparatively few of the children, although during the past year we had an attendance of over 200,000.

Ignoring the numerous records and the large amount of technical work which consumes so much time, I will first describe our work in the children's rooms, and then explain how we have extended it to the schools and into the homes of the children.

We base our work on the selection of the books, and on the selection of the assistants in charge. In order to do successful work the books cannot be too carefully selected, and not only the best juvenile literature should be placed before the children, but also the best world literature. It is a difficult and delicate task to imbue the little readers with the true sense of the beautiful, so that they will absorb it unconsciously. The person in contact with the children should be inspired by and radiate a gentle permeating atmosphere of book culture. This is ideal, but we hope to reach it. United with this book sense there should be a born love for children; it cannot be cultivated unless the seeds are already there. The sentimental worker with children becomes bored and gives up the work altogether, or else becomes a mere automaton; and no one is quicker than a child to feel it when the interest is not spontaneous.

We find some of our best material for assistants among kindergartners; we have five now, drawn from the excellent training school of Pittsburgh. They have the advantage of having already worked among the children whom we are endeavoring to reach, and know them thoroughly. Their experience in the slum kindergartens and the summer playgrounds of the city has replaced their sentimentality by broader human sympathies, and given them a

knowledge of the odds against which they are working. They start from a point to which it is almost impossible to bring those who have never been in contact with the kindergarten spirit. They are original, resourceful, and of untiring zeal in studying to broaden their knowledge of children and books. They are capable of consecutive thought, and of planning ahead for results.

We have been experimenting as to what pleases and attracts the children most, and we have found that, if our bulletin boards, picture friezes, and story hours are made to appeal to their imaginations, we can practically control the juvenile reading.

We made this winter a specialty of bulletin board work, each branch assistant choosing a subject and carrying it on for the winter. Next year the subjects will be exchanged, and the bulletins, or bulletin suggestions, be passed on with the subjects. The shelves under the bulletin boards for collections of books on the subjects are usually empty, so eager are the children to read about the posted pictures, for our bulletins are almost entirely made of pictures.

The frieze of dark green paper is run along the top shelves of the open bookcases, and is the children's catalog (an idea taken from Milwaukee; see *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, v. 23, p. 664). On this frieze we paste pictures cut from old books, poster-covers from new books, or from the children's magazines. Under these we write the authors and titles of the respective books, taking care to post pictures about the books to which we wish to draw the children's attention. Free use of a box of water colors makes old pictures attractive for both frieze and bulletin boards. We use Perry pictures, and plates from *Birds and all Nature* freely. We have a number of little frames, with adjustable backs and standards, made to fit the Perry pictures. They are very useful for small exhibits.

The weekly story hour, first tried at our West End branch, gives us an opportunity to introduce the children to the great stories of the world, and we are rarely able to satisfy the demand for books about the stories after the story hour is over, although we prepare a shelf full beforehand. At the central library and

Wylie Avenue branch we are experimenting with a carefully prepared program of hero stories. The children at the end of the story course will be given an exhibit of hero pictures. We have decided next year to tell no stories haphazard, but to have a central line of thought run throughout the story course, the same series being told at the central library and branches, and a sufficient supply of books being ready to satisfy the demand. We have had this winter an attendance at story hours of 5600 children, over 3000 of which were at the Lawrenceville branch. With few exceptions the same children return every week.

In each room is a small reference library composed of duplicate copies of circulating books most valuable for composition or for general school work, and a few encyclopedias. This reference library is invaluable. There are also shelves for mothers and teachers, and shelves for new books.

We think we get a strong *personal* hold on the children by visiting them in their homes. We make sometimes as many as a hundred visits a month, and have varied experiences. It takes us into the homes of the people and keeps us fresh in our knowledge of their wants. Our excuse is always a parent's signature on applications of children under 14. The parents will rarely come to the library themselves and sign for the children. Our home registrations and district visiting make our work more vital, and show us daily that we can do nothing permanent without the co-operation of the mothers.

The social conditions of the districts in which the branches are situated differ greatly. We are forced to make rules to regulate the use of a room according to its clientele. In this differentiation, however, lies a danger of lack of consistency and sympathetic co-operation. The organization of the rooms into one department, the branch librarians and the head of the department working together diminishes some of the difficulty, but as the actual carrying out of the plans lies with the assistants in charge, it is necessary that they should be of the same spirit and working for the same results. It is hardly necessary to add that without the hearty co-operation of the branch librarian this is impossible. To keep thoroughly in touch with each other, the assistants meet every other week at the central library, and spend a morning giving verbal reports, discussing experiments, and studying the work as carried on in other libraries. Each children's room is pro-

vided with a day book. From this is made out the full monthly report. The day book offers a most satisfactory and complete history, answering many questions which may arise about the use of the room. We help the school children with our bulletin boards, reference books, and teachers' shelves, but beyond that we try to shut out a school atmosphere from the children's rooms.

All important school work is done from the central library under the direction of a special assistant, who spends her time working for and in the schools. We have a collection of school duplicates numbering over 5000 volumes, distributed to 36 schools and institutions. We try to keep the standard of selection high. At the beginning of this school year the chief librarian addressed the school principals of the city and outlined a definite scheme of co-operation. Immediately afterward committees were appointed to discuss the best methods of selecting and using the books to be set aside for the schools. They are sparing neither time nor labor to produce a carefully selected and thoroughly graded list. The schools have met the library more than half way, and the hearty enthusiasm shown fills us with encouragement for the future of our school work.

Last summer we made arrangements with the Allegheny County Civic Club and the Small Parks Association and sent libraries to five summer playgrounds, in charge of a kindergarten who went from one playground to another overseeing the distribution of the books. We had also seven volunteer helpers who read, told stories, and played with the children. The playground work is an eye-opener, and we had glimpses into the life of the boys and girls of the street, which have proved to be most useful. When the playground closed many of the children clamored for library cards. They are now frequent users of the children's rooms, and we feel we know them better than the other children. We hope to extend this work the coming summer.

The general scheme of the home library, with the friendly visitor, is too well known to require any details here. Ours differs little from the plan originated by Mr. C. W. Birtwell, general secretary of the Boston Children's Aid Society (see LIBRARY JOURNAL, vol. 19, C9-13). We have 21 libraries, 20 friendly visitors, and a membership of 200 children. We prefer to work slowly but thoroughly, and not handle too many libraries at once. We are reaching

out-of-the-way corners and alleys of the city we could reach in no other way. The supervisor of the home libraries has had a three years' training in a kindergarten school, and is fitted by her experience in the free kindergartens and playgrounds to deal with children of this sort. We send out with the cases picture bulletins and games, and the visitors use these means, in connection with the books, to gain the confidence and affection of the children and to aid them in securing real benefit from the libraries. The visitors meet monthly at the central library for conference. The exchange of experiences that these conferences permit, prove of great value in carrying on the work and in laying plans for its development.

Let those who worship statistics not enter here. The time must come when the library will be judged more fairly by the thoroughness of its work than by overpowering figures. Then only will the untiring efforts of the successful home librarian be appreciated. She "beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things," and it takes the utmost optimism and persistence to keep the home libraries from becoming a constantly shifting scene of visitors, homes, and cases; but success here is crowned with richer returns than in any other phase of the work with children. From the children's rooms into the school-rooms, from the school-rooms into the playgrounds, and from the playgrounds into the homes—the library is certainly carrying the influence of good books into the lives of the people.

FURNISHING OF CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES.

From Pratt Institute Free Library Bulletin.

As a matter of reference for libraries contemplating the furnishing of a children's department, we print here some figures which we are frequently asked to supply, *i. e.*, the dimensions of the tables and chairs in the children's room of Pratt Institute Free Library.

Small tables: height, 21½ in.; width, 36 in.; length, 60½ in.

Large tables: height, 28¾ in.; width, 36 in.; length, 60½ in.

Small chairs: height of seat, 14 in.; depth of seat, 12½ in.; width of seat, 14 in.; back, 14 in.

Large chairs: height of seat, 16 in.; depth of seat, 14½ in.; width of seat, 16 in.; back, 16 in.

Observation has shown that seats and tables of an intermediate size would be desirable.

OPEN SHELVES: A REPLY.

MR. WILLCOX'S paper on "Open shelves" for large libraries, in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for March, contains several weak points, which it seems worth while to indicate, in reviewing his statement of the question. Any one who has been interested in this matter for any length of time, and who has had the slightest experience in such work, could not have any doubt as to the increased use of the books in the open-shelf arrangement. I have seen books kept behind a counter for months and months without any application being made for them, and the same books issued once or twice a month when put upon the open shelf. In Mr. Willcox's criticism of Mr. Thomson, when he asks "Have they in Philadelphia a trained body of intelligent, educated assistants to wait upon and advise with their public?" he presupposes that assistants engaged for open-shelf work must of necessity be less endowed with mental faculties than those serving under a closed arrangement. This, of course, is not to be taken seriously.

In reply to his question as to whether the Free Library of Philadelphia has tried the "old way," I would state that it has. Mr. Thomson was very much opposed to open shelves when the library was first established in the city hall, and by means of much advertisement and a great deal of "courteous treatment" on the part of his assistants he managed to accomplish the wonderful result of circulating 300 volumes per day, while the Wagner Institute branch, with open shelves, was having no difficulty in circulating 1000 volumes a day with a smaller force in a room 25 x 50 feet.

Mr. Thomson's common sense in coming to what Mr. Willcox would call the "new system," has resulted in a circulation in the central branch of the library that reaches to 4000 on some days.

Mr. Willcox makes a point that "order is heaven's first law," and says that "the catch as catch can" system does not result in a person's finding the book he needs. With the same number of assistants for the same circulation, I will venture to say that it is possible to keep the open-shelf library in as good order for all working purposes as the closed. As regards the dictionary catalog at the Free Library of Philadelphia, I will say in defence of Mr. Thomson, that in the matter of cross-references, the bringing out of biographical sketches, essays and criticisms, under proper headings, it is as good as any dictionary catalog in any free library I have seen. This, of course, does not have anything to do with open or closed shelves, but Mr. Willcox evidently thinks that

any one who would be so careless as to permit the shelves to be open to the public must be careless in cataloging.

To Mr. Willcox's statement that "the women who prepare papers on a great variety of recondite subjects, making the most exacting demands on our resources, would be absolutely lost and helpless if left to their own investigations and told to go and help themselves," I would also enter an exception. I would submit that a person who prepares a paper "on a recondite subject" might know more about the literature of that subject than the "intelligent and educated assistant," and might not be so absolutely lost in being allowed to look over the books on that subject as he supposes. There is no doubt that a great many people hesitate to ask many questions at a desk, and to a very large majority even a good catalog does not contain much information. I have seen people ask for several books at the desk, and not finding what was wanted, they have felt that they were giving too much trouble, and have given up the hunt; whereas, had they been allowed to go to the shelves without being enveloped in red tape, they probably would have pursued their quest until they found what they wished. The question of "Poole's index," of course, is a different matter. That is reference work pure and simple, and belongs to the reference-room, where the intelligent assistant can accomplish a great deal. Mr. Willcox intimates that a free-access library is a paradise for loafers. My opinion is that the loafers are beautifully distributed throughout all the libraries in the city — them we have always with us. Mr. Willcox's objection to the open shelf, "on account of the damages to books by handling," strikes an antiquated note. He states "every time a book is handled it is soiled and hurt!" May the books in the Free Library of Philadelphia be ever so much soiled and hurt in that way, it will never cause a groan on the part of the management! Not needlessly soiled or needlessly hurt, but just soiled and hurt by handling.

With regard to the losses occurring in such libraries, Mr. Willcox has confused two propositions. The first proposition might be: Does the open-shelf library lose more books by theft in its circulating department than does the closed arrangement? The answer is: It does. And notwithstanding Mr. Willcox's objection to the statement, I would say that it costs less, even granting this, than the closed arrangement costs. The second proposition is: Are more plates taken from valuable works of art and other expensive books in libraries with open shelves than in those that are closed? The answer is "No," because such books are especially provided for by the open-shelf libraries; so that there is no necessity for anxiety. Mr. Willcox's summing up is weak in that it again presupposes that the intelligent assistants and the well-equipped catalogs are all monopolized by libraries having closed shelves, and he also claims for that arrangement that the public is better instructed how to use the catalog. The catalog in an open-shelf library

is quite as well used as in the other system, only it is used to greater advantage on account of the reader's being able to see the book on the shelf with other books on the same subject, and being able to look the book over and see whether it is what he may want instead of taking up the time of an assistant, who is, however, perfectly willing to get for him anything that he needs for definite investigation.

One thing Mr. Willcox has entirely overlooked, and that is, that the confusion on the shelves caused by the free-access system is almost entirely confined to the fiction shelves, and therefore the person wishing a book for study purposes is not so much inconvenienced as he thinks.

The questions to be considered upon the opening of a new library when the subject of free access comes up are these:

Can a library of a given number of volumes circulate among the people a given number of books a year at less cost by the open-shelf system than the closed?

The answer will be definitely in favor of the open-shelf arrangement.

Second: Are the inhabitants of the city, or a majority of them, better served by the open-shelf system or the closed?

The answer to my mind is undoubtedly in favor of the open-shelf system, notwithstanding the fact that there will be some people who object to using the books when they become worn and soiled, and notwithstanding the fact that other persons will be disgusted because they cannot find the novel they want at the proper time, and will depart in a dudgeon to subscribe to a circulating library (which is what such people should do), and notwithstanding the fact that it may be somewhat harder for the assistants to maintain the strict numerical order of the books upon the shelves.

To these might be added two other questions suggested by Mr. Willcox's paper:

Are catalogs, dictionary, or other any less carefully prepared in open-shelf libraries than in closed? The answer would be "No."

Second: Are assistants in open-shelf libraries less obliging or less intellectual than in those having the closed arrangement?

My answer would be that the intelligence of the assistant is largely dependent on the person who does the choosing and subsequent training, and given librarians of equal perspicacity and ability to inspect, the assistants will be the same in each case, with the exception that in the case of the assistant in the open-shelf library you will find an alertness that is wanting in many of her sisters of the other persuasion.

In fact it may be stated generally that there are more specimens of the post-pliocene period to be found in the closed-shelf libraries than could ever be found in the same number of their more enlightened brethren.

The summing up of the matter is, that very few libraries change from the open to the closed arrangement, while the reverse has become quite a common practice.

T. L. MONTGOMERY.

BEST 50 BOOKS OF 1899 FOR A VILLAGE LIBRARY.

THE following list shows the result of the annual selection of the books of the foregoing year, made by librarians, under direction of the New York State Library. The selection is based upon the list of 500 of the leading books of 1899, sent out to the librarians of New York state and others to obtain an expression of opinion respecting the best 50 books of last year to be added to a village library. A fuller annotated list of the best books of 1899 will soon be issued by the New York State Library. The books are ranked according to the number of votes received:

RANK.	VOTES.
1. Churchill. Richard Carvel.....	125
2. Ford. Janice Meredith.....	110
3. Crawford. Via Crucis.....	99
4. Fiske. Dutch and Quaker colonies in America.....	88
5. Bryce, and others. Briton and Boer: both sides of the South African question.....	79
Hillegas. Oom Paul's people.....	79
7. Fiske. Through nature to God.....	72
8. Van Dyke. Fisherman's luck.....	70
9. Mitchell. American lands and letters.....	69
10. Markham. The man with the hoe, and other poems.....	62
Stevenson. Letters of Robert Louis Stevenson.....	62
12. Parsons. How to know the ferns.....	61
13. Burnett. In connection with the De Willoughby claim.....	60
14. Leonard, ed. Who's who in America.....	59
15. Whiteing. No. 5 John st.....	58
16. Bullen. Cruise of the <i>Cachalot</i>	57
17. Earle. Child life in colonial days.....	56
18. Browning. Letters of Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Barrett.....	55
19. Ford. The many-sided Franklin.....	54
20. Baker. Boy's book of inventions.....	53
Washington. Future of the American negro.....	53
22. Fiske. A century of science, and other essays.....	52
Page. Santa Claus's partner.....	52
Willard. Tramping with tramps.....	52
25. Du Chaillu. Land of the long night.....	51
26. Singleton. Great pictures as seen and described by famous writers.....	48
Tarkington. The gentleman from Indiana.....	48
28. Frederic. The market-place.....	44
McCarthy. Story of the people of England in the nineteenth century.....	44
30. Lounsbury. Guide to the wild flowers.....	42
Phillipotts. Children of the mist.....	42
32. Drysdale. Helps for ambitious boys.....	39
Lodge. War with Spain.....	39
34. Abbott. Blue jackets of '98.....	38
James. Talks to teachers on psychology.....	38
Hale. James Russell Lowell and his friends.....	38
37. Sloane. Liquid air and the liquefaction of gases.....	37
38. Hillis. Great books as life teachers.....	36

Warner. That fortune.....	36
Wright. Wabeno the magician.....	36
41. Bailey. Principles of agriculture.....	35
Miller. First book of birds.....	35
Munroe. Forward, march.....	35
44. Brooks. Historic Americans.....	34
McCarthy. Reminiscences.....	34
Van Dyke. Gospel for a world of sin.....	34
47. Cable. Strong hearts.....	33
Harris. Chronicles of Aunt Minervy Ann.....	33
Whitney. Square pegs.....	33
50. Haggood. Abraham Lincoln.....	32

CITY CHILDREN AND THE LIBRARY.

WHAT the library may bring into the lives of the children of the crowded city districts is touched upon in a report of Miss Helen Moore, librarian of the University Settlement Library of New York:

"It is easy," she says, "to speak lightly about these children's errors, and to seem to amuse one's self at their expense, but the limitations of their childhood never impressed us more deeply, nor have we ever realized more the important part which the library and clubs play in their lives. These children depend almost wholly upon what they receive from books for moral and mental stimulus. They have no athletics, no real games, no music, no art. The changing seasons mean little more to them than the transition from winter's cold to the sweltering heat of summer. They know nothing of nature. Wild flowers! they rarely see them. They never see the stars, though the sky is above them—the street lamps blind their eyes. From their teachers in the public schools, from the club associations, and from their books they must often get all they are to know of the good and beauty of life. Their hours are divided into those spent at home in a hot, crowded, unsanitary tenement, those spent in the street or candy saloon, and those spent in the dark, overcrowded school. Their home life few can know; it is often destroyed by privation and ignorance; their street life, he who has eyes and a heart may read. For the boys of this class we need wholesome, exciting books of adventure, books of travel and heroic deeds. It is for the boy in the Tombs, who plays craps and gambles and reads vicious books, for the school children who have never seen the country and come to a book of reference to learn what a cow is like, for the half-grown girl who goes into the factory at fourteen, for working boys studying at night to pass the Regent's examination, for the boy or girl who belongs to a club named after Lincoln, Hamilton, or Washington, who wants to read the lives of those men, for the child of foreign parents, who, in the first blush of patriotism, inspired by the sight of the school flag, comes to the library for a United States history, that we want books, the right kind of wholesome, joyous books, that shall bring sweetness and light into their lives, and ideals of virtue and civic morality to their minds."

IDEAS IN CHILDREN'S WORK.

From Wisconsin F. L. Commission "Suggestions for bulletins," Jan. - Feb., 1900.

MISS ELLEN D. BISCOE, librarian at Eau Claire, has arranged in the children's corner, over the low shelves, a number of "ladders to climb." A ladder is drawn on a slip of paper, and over each round is written the title of a book. These lists are carefully graded and the books selected with an idea to real mental climbing on these literature ladders. The child is allowed to select his own ladder, and his name is entered on the roll of honor when the chosen ladder is mounted. The lists must be made attractive in selection, and a little preliminary conversation with each boy or girl is necessary in order to start them in the right lines of reading.

In Cedar Rapids Miss Harriet McCrory, the librarian, has organized a children's library club very much on the plan of the "library league." There are Lowell, Whittier, Eugene Field, and many other chapters. Each chapter has a separate list in an attractive little folder, about five inches long and three wide, printed in red and black. The folder bears on the cover the name of the club and chapter. Inside is found the short reading list, with each title numbered, and opposite this are the pledges of the club: promises to keep the books clean, handle them carefully, and to observe order in the library. The last page contains the blank form for a certificate to be filled out when all the books in the list have been read.

A STUDY OF CHILDREN'S READING.

In the December number of *The Pedagogical Seminary*, published in February, Miss Clara Vostrovsky contributes an interesting article, "A study of children's reading tastes." It is replete with tables, "charts," graphic representations, and percentages. It is an effort to ascertain, in some measure, the general reading tastes of school children before any organized effort has been made to direct it. The "subjects" studied are the children of the schools of Stockton, Cal. A few simple questions were submitted without explanation to all the children of the different schools on the same day and at the same hour. Here are the questions: 1. (a) Do you take books from the public library? (b) If so, how often? 2. (a) What was the name of your last book? (b) Why did you take it? (c) How did you like it?

Answers were received from 1269 children, 604 boys and 665 girls. 50 per cent. of the boys and 48 per cent. of the girls use the public library, against 50 per cent. of the former and 52 per cent. of the latter, who do not. The ages of the children range from 9 to 19 years. Before 16 more boys than girls use the library; after 16 more girls than boys. From 9 to 15 most of the reading of boys and girls belongs to the class of juvenile stories; after that age fiction takes the lead with girls, and general literature (biography, history, science, etc.)

with boys. Boys read more books and read them more hastily than girls. The chief reasons why books are taken are the following: on account of substance, boys 38 per cent., girls 29 per cent.; good, nice, etc., boys 19 per cent., girls 23; recommended, boys 15 per cent., girls 21. 12 per cent. of the boys liked books because they were about children, and 52 per cent. of girls liked them for the same reason; because of adventures, etc., boys 76 per cent., girls 24; because funny, boys 6 per cent., girls 12; because of miscellaneous reasons, boys 6 per cent., girls 12. While some of the books mentioned by the girls were stories about boys alone, not one mentioned by the boys were merely in regard to girls. Girls mentioned 79 different authors, boys 65. Only 17 are mentioned by both, Louisa M. Alcott and Horatio Alger are apparently the only ones who enjoy at all anything like equal favor. Alcott stands, by far, first in girl's list, Sophie May next, followed by Martha Finley, Horatio Alger, Minnie E. Paull, and Mrs. Burnett, in the order given. William T. Adams (Oliver Optic) is the favorite with boys, being named almost twice as often as his successor, Henty. Then come Edward S. Ellis, Horatio Alger, Harry Castlemon, J. T. Trowbridge, and Miss Alcott. More standard works of fiction were drawn by boys than by girls. "Taken altogether, boys are more definite than girls in their answers, and more independent in their attitude." The study of Miss Vostrovsky is a most interesting one.

WHAT NEW JERSEY IS DOING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

H. C. Buchanan, State Librarian, at Washington library meeting, March 30.

THE legislation of interest to public libraries that was passed at the session of the New Jersey Legislature that has just closed, was that creating a Public Library Commission of five persons, and the appropriation of \$1500 additional for the travelling libraries provided for by the act of 1898. It is true that no appropriation was made for carrying into effect the library commission act; but Governor Voorhees will soon appoint the members of the commission, who may organize, lay out the work to be done, and be able to go before the next legislature with a statement of facts and conditions that will secure a sufficient appropriation to defray the expenses of the commissioners and begin the work of aiding in the establishing of free public libraries in some of the smaller municipalities.

So far as can be learned, Dr. Richardson, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Kimball were the only persons who had faith in their ability to secure the passage of the law, and to the energy and persistence of Mr. Kimball, the chairman of the New Jersey Library Association's special committee, is due much of the credit for the success achieved. The result shows that it is not always necessary to employ the methods of the lobbyist, and personally solicit votes from senators and members, in order to secure legislation;

none of the three gentlemen was in Trenton during the session of the legislature. Mr. Kimball prepared the bill and placed it in the hands of Mr. Vivian Lewis, a member of the Assembly from Passaic county, who successfully piloted it through the House, and then gave it his personal attention until it had passed the Senate and received the approval of the Governor.

The New Jersey Library Association will be represented on the commission (unless there shall be a change in the Governor's views), and will thus be able to in a measure direct the work. The new law calls for the appointment of the five commissioners within 30 days after the passage of the act. The terms of the first commissioners will be five, four, three, two, and one years, and afterwards the appointment will be for five years. The members are to serve without compensation, but may spend \$500 a year for travelling expenses, stationery and postage, and for clerical assistance, and may donate to any free public library under municipal control having less than 5000 volumes a sum not exceeding \$100, where the trustees of such library shall set apart an equal sum to be expended for the purchase of books.

One reason, doubtless, why no appropriation was made this year for the work of the commission was the misapprehension of members of the appropriations committee and the financial officers of the state as to the provisions of the act; some of them believing that the \$100 was to be an annual donation, and that the draft on the treasury would be continuous and heavier each year. In the "red book" prepared by the Committee on Public Library Commission, it is stated that there are but 129 cities and towns in New Jersey, having a population of over 750, that could take advantage of the law. This would make the total expense to the state, if all applied for aid, less than \$13,000. This expense it is in the power of the legislature to distribute over a number of years, so that it would be no more of a burden than the travelling libraries, which now cost the state but \$1500 a year, and will cost less after 1901.

With the \$1500 appropriated last year for travelling libraries, 28 libraries were made up, and all but one were sent out between Dec. 15 and Jan. 3. They went into all the counties excepting Atlantic, Hudson, Middlesex, Ocean, and Union. At present there are on file at the state library applications from nine towns, which will be supplied as soon as it is possible to make the library cases, select and purchase the books, and have the catalogs printed. This is made possible by the appropriations committee of the legislature consenting to make available at once \$500 of the appropriation asked for to continue the work. No formal reports have been received from those in charge of the libraries sent out, but from statements made by others it is evident that there were no misrepresentations on the part of those who advocated the establishing of the travelling library system in New Jersey.

The club women of New Jersey have not abandoned their child now that the state has

assumed guardianship, but are manifesting their interest in a substantial way. Besides the contribution of 55 volumes on kindergarten work made by the committee in charge of that department of work by the Federation of Women's Clubs, a contribution of 60 volumes has been received from the Rasores Club of Plainfield, and one of 52 volumes from the Charlotte Emerson Brown Club of East Orange; while the Montclair Chapter of Daughters of the Revolution has sent word that a collection of historical works will soon be sent to the state library. A Fanwood lady has made inquiries about sending on a box of 50 volumes, and Mrs. E. B. Horton, of Cranford, has promised a donation from the Federation.

Blank applications and circulars of information have been sent to about 100 persons since last summer, and the formal applications received show that about one in three continue their interest after learning of the operations of the system. The libraries are made up of 50 books, one-half of which is fiction. A fee of \$5 a year is charged for the use of the libraries, which pays all the expenses, even to the express charges for returning the libraries to Trenton.

The 1345 books purchased cost \$1166.29; the card catalog, printed catalogs, labels, pockets, book-plates, postage stamps, circulars, accession and account books, \$215.03; and the expressage for sending out 27 libraries, \$29.05. There is a balance of \$89.63 of the year's appropriation, besides \$135 received in fees, and which may be used to replace or repair lost or damaged books.

The third topic assigned for this paper is a statement of what New Jersey is doing for school libraries. Possibly interest in this is due to the fact that there has just been made a revision and codification of the public school laws. Whatever changes have been made in other respects, there has been none in the provision of aid to public school libraries. For at least a quarter of a century the state has paid \$20 to any public school for which there shall have been raised by subscription or entertainment a like sum, to establish a school library or to procure books of reference and necessary school apparatus. Besides this there has been paid annually the further sum of \$10 where a like sum shall have been raised. Under this law the state has for several years paid out over \$5000 annually to the public schools. And that this state aid is appreciated and is an incentive to the schools to help themselves is made evident by the statement of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, that the schools spend from \$12,000 to \$15,000 a year for library and reference books, thus raising nearly double the amount required of them. Where there is more than one school-house in a district the schools are authorized to consolidate and establish a district library.

Besides this aid to the school libraries the state appropriates \$100 for the establishment of a library of pedagogical books for the use of the teachers in any county that raises a like amount by subscription, and gives annually \$50 toward any such library where a similar amount is raised.

JOINT LIBRARY MEETING: PENNSYLVANIA, NEW JERSEY, AND WASHINGTON LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS, WASHINGTON, MARCH 29-31, 1900.

THE annual joint meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club and the New Jersey Library Association, held for several years past at Atlantic City, was arranged this year in co-operation with the Library Association of Washington City, and a three-days' meeting was held in Washington, from March 29-31 inclusive. The special rates offered, and the sightseeing opportunities of the meeting, drew a large attendance—well over 200—but, naturally, made the proportion of those not engaged in library work larger than is generally the case at library conferences. The program, as a whole, was excellent, with interesting and concise papers, but the desire to visit scenes of local and national interest reduced attendance and rather quenched discussion. The Ebbitt House was general headquarters, though a number went to the Riggs House, and the meetings were held at Carroll Institute Hall on 10th street. The three sessions were so arranged that each one was conducted by the officers of one of the library associations co-operating, and every person listed on the program was in attendance with the exception of Mr. Dewey, who was to have spoken on the general subject of libraries and clubs.

The visiting delegates arrived in Washington in the late afternoon of Thursday, and the first session was opened that evening, at 8.30, under the auspices of the Washington Library Association. About 175 were present. Captain Howard L. Prince, president of that association, welcomed the visitors in a pleasant address, describing briefly the general characteristics of the District of Columbia and pointing out that every citizen of the United States owned an individual interest in the public property of the capital city. He touched upon the many institutions interesting to librarians—the Library of Congress, the Library of the Surgeon-General's office, the Smithsonian, and the various department libraries—and noted the development of the long-needed public library, assured through Mr. Carnegie's generosity.

Mr. Putnam followed with a few words of welcome, and Mr. Bernard R. Green then gave a most interesting and practically helpful paper on "The planning and construction of public library buildings." He outlined briefly the evolution of modern library architecture, noting the distinctive styles developed in the process, and reviewing the varied requirements of space now demanded in a modern public library. These requirements were illustrated by large wall plans of the new Carnegie Library building of Washington. The disposition of books in stacks was considered, according to the plans of Winsor and Poole, and the modern arrangement, with its freedom from heat, dust, darkness or fire danger, was described. The paper gave evidence throughout of the practical experience and thorough knowledge of the

writer, and it is hoped that it may soon reach a larger audience than it was originally prepared for.

"Proprietary libraries in Philadelphia" were described by James G. Barnwell, of the Philadelphia Library Company, who reviewed the character and vicissitudes of the various subscription libraries that were organized as a result of the establishment in 1731 of the pioneer of its class, the Library Company of Philadelphia. These libraries included the Germantown Library Company, 1745; Union Library Company, 1751; Association Library Company, 1757; Amicable Library Company, 1757; Byberry Library Company, 1794; Associate Library Company of Philadelphia County, 1795; The Athenæum, 1813; Mercantile Library Company, 1821; Southwark Library Company, 1822; Northern Liberties Library and Reading Room Company, 1830; Library of Foreign Literature and Science, before 1832; Spring Garden Library Company, 1835; Moyamensing Literary Institute, 1852; Mechanics' Institute of Southwark, 1852; Kensington Library Institute, 1853; Western Library Association of Philadelphia, 1854; Library and Reading Room Association of 23d Ward, 1857.

"Of those named the following, in addition to the three centrally located leading libraries, are known to survive: the Byberry, the Bustleton, the Southwark Library Companies, the Mechanics' Institute of Southwark, the Moyamensing Literary Institute, and the Library Association of the 23d Ward. Four of the libraries mentioned have been merged in the Philadelphia Library—the Amicable, the Association, and the Union Library companies in 1769, and the Library of Foreign Literature and Science in 1840." The development of the more important proprietary libraries—the Athenæum, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Mercantile—was outlined. Of the latter the speaker said: "The decadence of this noble institution is one of the saddest in library history. One thing is, however, certain: The establishment of the Free Library of Philadelphia is in no appreciable degree responsible for it. By very easy stages the membership has dwindled from 11,786 in 1871 to 2453 in 1898. The ratio of decrease has not perceptibly augmented since the establishment of the Free Library in 1890. Whatever the causes, they must have been equally operative in the 19 years before the establishment of the Free Library as in the nine years since." In conclusion Mr. Barnwell pointed out that "the proprietary library has a sphere of its own, and if properly conducted every such institution in an intellectual and scholarly community will continue to receive the success it merits. The free library or the public library, by whatever name called, has its own sphere; the two do not necessarily clash, and they should not."

"Institutes and their relation to library development" was the concluding paper, by Thomas L. Montgomery. It was a direct, lucid summary of the development of the institute, touching upon the wide influence exerted by these organizations, and noting some of the

characteristics of Franklin's famous Junto. Mr. Montgomery said, in part:

"A number of the most prominent institutions in Philadelphia had their beginning in the meetings of Franklin's Junto, the most prominent of which are the American Philosophical Society and the Library Company of Philadelphia. These, together with the Historical Society and the Academy of Natural Sciences, have much in common with the institutes, except that the latter have become clubs of specialists; and although their libraries, lectures, and museums are open to the public, the average instruction imparted is rather beyond the comprehension of the people who form the membership of the institutes."

"About 1820 there seems to have been a great deal of activity in educational projects, and it was about that time that the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Southwark Library Co., the Franklin Institute, and the Apprentices' and Mercantile libraries were formed. The Franklin Institute has naturally appealed to a greater number of mechanics and artisans than any of the others, and for 75 years has held its meetings and supervised courses of lectures according to the institute method for the general public, with special provision in later years for the meetings of sections of specialists. It has also published the *Journal of the Franklin Institute*, one of the best publications of its class, and from the exchanges received in return for this, and a very careful distribution of a small appropriation for books, it has gathered together an admirable collection of works relating to applied science." In the years following the Civil War the activities of the institutes were hampered, and many of them lost their original characteristics. "The West Philadelphia Institute carried on a small circulating library for some years, and finally merged into the West Philadelphia branch of the Free Library. The City Institute found it could not maintain courses of instruction, and gave itself up to the formation of a Free Public Library, which, with the Apprentices' Library, constituted the only provision for the free use of books for the inhabitants of the city of Philadelphia until the establishment of the Free Libraries in 1892. To the City Institute belongs the credit of being the first Free Library to grant free access to shelves, in which they were soon followed by the Apprentices' Library."

"The old institutes which did not survive, owing to the lack of the necessary funds to carry on the work, have in many cases become possible homes for small libraries. Most of them had small collections of good books, and I have spoken of the absorption of the West Philadelphia collection by the Free Library of Philadelphia in forming the West Philadelphia branch. The Roxborough Lyceum building also turned over its books as a nucleus for the Roxborough branch of the Free Library, which has its headquarters in the Lyceum building. The Thomas Holme Association, at Holmeburg, has become the Thomas Holme branch of the Free Library, with about 25,000 books as part of the gift. The Christian Hall Associa-

tion, at Chestnut Hill, has become the Chestnut Hill branch. Most of these associations own their buildings, and as they generally contain a large hall, the adaptation to the uses of the library is easily accomplished. The Wagner Institute also provided quarters for a branch. It will be seen from this that one of the chief difficulties to be met with in building up a branch library system was overcome by the thoughtfulness of those who built the big square structures for institute purposes 50 years ago. The institutes also became the storage places for a great deal that was interesting in literature, and many very rare volumes have come into the possession of the present library system through these channels."

Friday morning's session opened at 10 o'clock, with Dr. E. C. Richardson, of the New Jersey Library Association, in the chair. Dr. Richardson's opening address dealt with "Relative book production (American and foreign)," and was a careful analysis of the statistics of book production of the various countries, pointing out the erroneous conclusions drawn from the inclusion in foreign statistics of pamphlets, folders, and minor publications excluded from the statistics of Great Britain and the United States. The result of a more accurate investigation of the sources of information was found to show that "on whatever basis reckoned, the United States produce more books than any other nation on earth except perhaps Great Britain, and if the periodical volume is counted, more probably than Great Britain."⁸

"What New Jersey is doing for public libraries" was described by H. C. Buchanan, state librarian, who gave special attention to the library commission newly created for the state (*See p. 171*). Dr. H. C. Bolton spoke briefly upon Dr. Richardson's address, saying that the association owed a debt of gratitude to the speaker for correcting the erroneous impression which is spread abroad by a comparison of the figures of book production abroad as compared with those of this country, to the latter's prejudice.

Miss Isabel Ely Lord followed with a paper on "What the small public library needs." This, the speaker thought, was pre-eminently "the right librarian," and she gave a strong presentation of the opportunity possessed by the librarian of the small library "of making his library a factor in the community of a kind quite other than the great collection," of establishing "human relations with his people, and thus wielding a degree and a kind of influence that it is hard to estimate." She dwelt also upon the high quality of service that may be rendered by the untrained librarian who sets himself with persistence and enthusiasm to master his calling. Mr. Carr spoke briefly in discussion of the paper, emphasizing the special field that the small public library offers for the best kind of personal work — most enduring and most helpful in its influence.

"Libraries and clubs" were considered by Miss Emma L. Adams, of the Plainfield Public

⁸Dr. Richardson's paper will appear in full in *The Publishers' Weekly*.

Library, in a short paper dealing with methods by which local clubs may be aided and influenced by the public library. Miss Adams said, in part: "The librarian will need to know (1) what clubs there are in his community and for what they exist, (2) he must know their clientele in order to know their needs; this is best learned by association with them, either personally or by proxy, and this knowledge will be a guide both in the purchase and the recommendation of books." Judgment must be exercised in the amount it is wise to expend for books for club use. Importance of the subject, probable future use and cost, as well as the size of the club, are all factors to be taken into consideration.

"Having purchased the books, that fact must be brought to the notice of the various clubs for whose use they have been bought. This can be done by publication in the library bulletin or local paper, announcement at the club, or if the purchase at any one time is of sufficient importance, an exhibit may be held. If pictures form part of the purchase a very effective exhibit can be arranged, and this opportunity may be wisely used to show members the use of the card catalog. In some cases it may be well to send a travelling library to the club. If the club publishes a calendar or report, the publication of the library's list in this will be found very helpful to members, especially if annotations are given or some other indication of the scope and value of the books. In the preparation of lists the size and membership of the club will again need to be taken into consideration. Too full a list may discourage by its very fulness, when a short one would stimulate.

"The matter of the publication of lists of the library's books on a given subject, by the organization interested in promoting its study or end, is a means of extending a library's influence which has not yet been fully utilized. Why should not, for instance, a hospital board publish a list on hospital construction and management, training of nurses, etc.; the board of health a list on sanitation; the common council a list on streets, water supply, or some other municipal problem of interest at the time; or the charity organization society a list on modern charitable methods, etc. When clubs publish no calendars or reports, they will usually be glad to post lists in their rooms. Recently we purchased about 500 books on photography, and a list was posted in the Camera Club as well as on our bulletin board, with a resulting large demand for these books."

The service the clubs may render the library was also touched upon: "Perhaps the most important service is that which the members render unconsciously in creating and maintaining a favorable sentiment toward a library. A club can appropriate funds for books in its subjects. A musical club might be stimulated to the formation of a musical library or an art club to a collection of photographs. Books and magazine clubs might turn over their books and magazines to the library. Once a thing of this kind is started it is likely to grow.

"While experience warns against looking immediately for results from any one course of action, I think little by little we should find a deeper interest and more pride taken in the library. Club programs, too, would bear witness to the broadening of the mental horizon of members, tending toward specialization and more serious study of a subject."

George Watson Cole reviewed "The library problems of the 20th century" in a brief paper, emphasizing the need of the long-discussed "universal catalog," and pointing out that the bibliographical achievements of the past would seem to make the universal catalog one of the possibilities of the new century before us. As one of the forerunners of modern plans for such an enterprise, Mr. Cole gave an interesting description of the general catalog of French libraries begun at the time of the French Revolution.

Friday afternoon was left free for sightseeing and library visits, and most of those present found their way to the Congressional Library, where they were personally conducted through the beautiful building by Mr. Spofford, Mr. Hanson, and others of the library staff.

In the evening the final session was opened promptly at 8 o'clock, with probably the largest attendance of the meeting. Prof. Allen C. Thomas, of Haverford College, president of the Pennsylvania Library Club, delivered the opening address. This included an appreciative review of the life and character of the late William Kite, librarian of the Friends' Library of Germantown, and then developed into a most interesting and suggestive summary of "Some of the dangers of technical knowledge and training, particularly in library work." Among these dangers were found narrowness, technicalities, officialism, and a tendency toward impatience with those ignorant of technicalities and systems; and the speaker emphasized the need of cultivating a broad spirit and full sympathy.

"Catalogs in free libraries" was the subject of a paper by Mr. F. P. Hill, who set forth the need in a library equipment of a dictionary card catalog for public use and a duplicate or official card catalog, and the importance of good printed finding lists issued according to the library's circulation. "The cheapness with which these special or class lists can be brought out appeals to all libraries. It goes against the grain to pay for anything received from a 'free' institution, and the public is not willing to pay more than 50c. for the best catalog that ever was printed, and if one can be had for 25c. there is joy among readers. But the chief claim to merit is the fact that the sale of class lists nearly pays for printing. Class lists have these advantages: 1, one does not have to buy the whole catalog to get the part wanted; 2, they pay for themselves; 3, can print first those sections most in demand; 4, get just the right thing to the right people; 5, can print only the number of each needed; 6, when a new edition is needed it is easy and cheap to print; 7, can be used in public catalog room in connection with the card catalog; 8, provides a stimulus to reading.

"Finally, every library, too, should issue a monthly or quarterly bulletin of additions to keep the public informed of new books, and to present special reading lists on current topics. Advertisements are permissible in the bulletins, as they pay for printing even while adding nothing to the appearance." Mr. Carr spoke briefly in support of the main points advanced in the paper.

W. P. Cutter, librarian of the Department of Agriculture, described the printed index cards issued by that department. These cards were undertaken in response to a request from the A. L. A. Publishing Section for co-operation in their index to serials. He said: "One installment of cards has been sent out, covering the year books of the department, each set comprising 142 author cards and 164 subject cards. 400 sets were printed—200 on cards $7\frac{1}{2} \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ cm., 200 on cards $5 \times 12\frac{1}{2}$ cm. Thus there were 124,000 separate cards for five volumes of publications. The cost of this first issue was \$183.10 for the cards and printing. The arrangement of the cards was made by the regular force at odd times, and the cost cannot be given. For each set of cards, therefore, the cost of printing was 45 cents, or 14 mills for each card. It is probable that 2 mills for each card would cover all cost outside of the preparation of the manuscript.

"The issue is distributed to: All the libraries of the agricultural colleges and experiment stations; all the libraries on the list of the A. L. A. Publishing Section noted as subscribing to their card index of serials; and to a selected list of general libraries, including only such as were not official depositories. No charge is made to the recipient of the cards. We believe that the increased use of the department publications will justify us in incurring the expense of the issue.

"From the first our idea was to furnish such a card index as could be used by one unfamiliar with card catalogs. Therefore we printed the subject headings at the top of the subject cards, asking the recipient merely to insert the cards in an existing card catalog. Of course no one is forbidden to change the subject headings. In fact we have changed them for our own catalog, merely because in choosing the headings we selected such as were most easily adapted for use in a general library. In connection with the issue of this index, we are making every attempt to complete sets of our publications in those institutions to which cards are sent."

The final paper on the program was on the "Catalog of the Library of Congress," by J. C. Hanson, chief of the catalog department. This was a clear and compact statement of what had been done in the past by the Library of Congress in the direction of cataloging and classification, and of the plans prepared and in part undertaken during the past two years, which have been made possible by the ample facilities of the new building. During the years 1802-1869 57 catalogs and additions were printed, a list of which are given in the check list of the Superintendent of Documents, edition of 1895. In 1869 the last subject catalog issued by the

library appeared. "That was a year of great activity in this direction, a catalog of law books being printed, as also one of works relating to political economy and the science of government, the latter containing the entries in the general subject catalog relating to these subjects. From 1870-75 five volumes of additions were printed. In 1878, an appropriation of \$20,000 having been voted for the purpose, the printing of a general author catalog, to embrace all volumes and pamphlets in the library up to 1877, was begun. Two volumes were completed, including the letters A-C. A part of the letter D was also printed, but has never been bound or distributed. The growing demands of the Copyright Office on the time and energy of the library force made it impossible to continue the printing." From 1887 to 1897 no catalogs or additions were printed, but in the year following several special lists were published. The work that has confronted the catalog department since its reorganization in the new building, in systematizing and completing the records of the present collection and handling current accessions, has been far beyond the possibilities of the force provided, which has averaged 15 persons. "The best that could be done during the initial months of the occupancy of the new library building was to continue the general author catalog, keeping this up to date, while gradually perfecting the cataloging machinery preparatory to beginning work on the new dictionary catalog. The possible future relation of the Library of Congress to the other libraries of the country had made it seem of prime importance that the principles governing the catalogs and classification, wherever it should not involve too great a sacrifice to the library, should be influenced largely by a consideration of those governing the majority of other American libraries." Therefore, in undertaking the new catalog, in May, 1898, the rules followed were in the main Cutter's rules and the rules of the A. L. A., supplemented by occasional emendations, while for subject heading the A. L. A. list has been adopted as far as it seems suitable for a library of a million volumes. The cataloging work carried on in connection with the Copyright Office was also reviewed. At present a full dictionary catalog of the copyrighted books recorded within the last year and a half is accessible to the public in the reading-room, while the official catalog now includes between 120,000 and 130,000 cards. A brief outline of the existing system of classification was given, one division—that of bibliography—having now been reclassified and fully indexed on cards. At present the reclassification has been discontinued, owing to the pressure of work and lack of increase in the force, but it is thought that the library will be in a condition to resume this important work in the near future.

The general subject treated in the various papers brought forth some discussion, in which Mr. John Thomson spoke of the woes that beset the cataloger of private libraries, Miss Kelso urged the inclusion of date of publication in catalog entries, and Mr. Cutter said a few

words of practical helpfulness. S. H. Ranck introduced a resolution, which was carried, requesting that at the A. L. A. conference in Montreal steps be taken to secure a common standard for the statistics of book production along the lines indicated by Dr. Richardson.

This closed the business of the meeting, and the following day, Saturday, was given up to the pleasant features that form part of all library programs. On Saturday morning at 10 o'clock the librarians were received at the White House by President McKinley, and immediately thereafter a trip was made by trolley to Mount Vernon, where a delightful hour was spent. In the late afternoon many of the party said farewell, others remaining to enjoy a beautiful Sunday and to visit Arlington and other scenes of interest. As to the enjoyment of the meeting there was but one unanimous opinion, while at the same time the feeling seemed almost equally to prevail that for the best business results a meeting should be freer from the delightful distractions that Washington offers to the visitor.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION FOR LIBRARIAN.

THE United States Civil Service Commission announces that on May 2, 1900, an examination will be held for the position of librarian. The examination will consist of the following subjects: Letter writing, elements of political economy, history and government of the United States, library economy, bibliography, books pertaining to political economy, training and experience. Age limit 20 years or over.

From the eligibles resulting from this examination certification will be made to the position of librarian in the Treasury Department at a salary of \$1200 per annum.

Persons who desire to compete should at once apply to the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., for application forms 304 and 375, which should be properly executed and promptly filed with the commission.

WHY MR. CARNEGIE FOUNDS FREE LIBRARIES.

Andrew Carnegie in N. Y. Herald.

I CHOOSE free libraries as the best agencies for improving the masses of the people, because they give nothing for nothing. They only help those who help themselves. They never pauperize. They reach the aspiring, and open to these the chief treasures of the world—those stored up in books. A taste for reading drives out lower tastes.

Besides this, I believe good fiction one of the most beneficial reliefs to the monotonous lives of the poor. For these and other reasons I prefer the free public library to most if not any other agencies for the happiness and improvement of a community.

American Library Association.

President: R. G. Thwaites, State Historical Society, Madison, Wis.

Secretary: Henry J. Carr, Public Library, Scranton, Pa.

Treasurer: Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE—JUNE 6-12, 1900.

The secretary of the A. L. A. has issued the following preliminary announcement regarding the Montreal meeting:

Members of the A. L. A., and all others interested, will please take notice that the annual meeting of the association for the year 1900 is to be held at Montreal, Canada, upon the invitation of the Governors of the McGill University, beginning Wednesday evening, June 6, and continuing to Tuesday, June 12, inclusive. The Post-conference following will extend to Sunday, June 17.

While prior meetings of the association have been held in different localities throughout the United States, so as to accommodate various sections of the country, and sometimes upon or close to the northern border, this will be the first instance of its meeting in that other distinctively American region which so closely adjoins the states, and has many allied interests. For that reason, no less than because of the attractive city and delightful opportunities afforded by a meeting there, the Montreal conference may be looked forward to as a marked event in the history of the A. L. A.

On behalf of the association reduced rate arrangements have been made by the Windsor Hotel, that commodious, well-known, and conveniently situated house which stands high in the hotel world and in the esteem of those who have visited there. Its charges to the A. L. A. people for this occasion, for rooms and board (American plan), will be \$3 and \$3.50 per day; the latter rate for rooms with baths, of which the hotel has an ample number. The rooms in the Windsor are large and well-lighted, whether inside or outside, and the majority afford pleasing views of the surrounding city and Mt. Royal.

For those who prefer to be quartered outside of the hotel, at a less expense, the local committee can also make provision, up to a moderate number, in various college dormitories about the McGill University campus; or else, to a limited extent, in equivalent boarding-houses. It is believed that the dormitory facilities, so far as obtainable, will prove attractive and advantageous for ladies, singly or in parties.

All persons planning or expecting to attend the Montreal meeting should, in every instance, send early notice to the secretary of the local committee, Mr. C. H. Gould, McGill University Library, stating accommodations desired.

PROGRAM.

The outline program given below will indicate substantially what has been planned for this meeting. Certain details remain to be

determined, and the particular speakers and papers will be subsequently announced. Section sessions, as in the previous year, will prove marked features. The respective officers or committees in charge of those will make due arrangements and preparations, as well as for certain special topics yet under consideration. In both the general and the section sessions stress is to be laid upon allowing ample time for individual questioning and discussion, features which are believed to be quite as essential and satisfactory as the direct presentation of a subject.

Convenient hours, with due intervals between sessions to admit of rest and personal conferences, etc., have been deemed no less desirable and are aimed at in the schedule prepared. The allotment for instructive entertainment provided by the local committee is well warranted, and will give profitable opportunities to a degree not commonly attained, when it is borne in mind what a wealth of historical and ecclesiastical interests is to be found in and centering around Montreal.

Additional attractions, including certain library, literary, and historical exhibits, are expected, and are likely to prove exceptionally interesting.

OUTLINE PROGRAM.

Wednesday, June 6.

Evening (8-10.30).

- 1 Social session. — "Old acquaintance renewed and new friends found."

Thursday, June 7.

Morning (10-12.30).

- 2 General session. — Routine business: Reports of officers, committees, etc.

Afternoon (2-6).

- 3 Local entertainment. — Ride to Mt. Royal Westmount Library, etc.

Evening (8-10).

- 4 Public meeting. — President's address; Local library promotion; The Reading public; Work with children; Travelling library movement.

Friday, June 8.

Morning (10-12.30).

- 5 General session. — Announcements and business (30 min.); Library work with children.

Section session. — College and reference libraries.

Afternoon (2-7).

- 6 Local entertainment. — Visit to Chateau de Ramezay and Fraser Institute; Members of Numismatic and Antiquarian Society take parties to historical points. Lachine rapids, 5-7 p.m.

Evening (8.30-10).

- 7 Section sessions. — Large Libraries. Topic: Access to shelves. State and Law libraries.

Saturday, June, 9.

Morning (10-12.30).

- 8 General session. — Announcements and

business (30 min.); Joint meeting of Trustees' Section and Large Libraries Section.

Afternoon (2-5.30).

- 9 Section sessions. — Trustees' section (business, etc.).

State library commissions — Round table.

Officers of state associations — Round table.

Evening (8-10.30).

- 10 Informal social. — Local color; All hands 'round.

Sunday, June 10.

Day of rest.

Or, for study of the ecclesiastical features of Montreal, according to personal preferences.

Monday, June 11.

Morning (10-12.30).

- 11 General session. — Announcements and business (30 min.); Canadian libraries and literary topics.

Round table of Catalogers.

Afternoon (2-5).

- 12 General session. — Purchase, care, and lending of photographs. Co-operation Committee program.

Evening (8-10).

- 13 Local entertainment. — Reception at McGill University.

Tuesday, June 12.

Morning (10-12.30).

- 14 General session. — Election; Reports Resolutions; Unfinished business.

Afternoon.

- 15 Local and Miscellaneous. — Individual option, and visits to places of interest.

Evening.

- 16 Post-conference begins with trip to the Saguenay, etc.

TRUSTEES AND LIBRARIANS.

The association urges upon boards of library trustees, or directors, the importance of being represented at its meetings by one or more of their body. The Trustees' Section has a regular organization, and the welcome results of their participation in the conferences of the A. L. A. have been evident.

Furthermore, the sending of the librarian as delegate (expenses paid if practicable, but otherwise with leave of absence and full pay to any librarian or assistant who does attend the meetings), proves an equally desirable practice. As a former member of this association has well said: "Those who know best are strongest in their belief that no time or expense pays a modern librarian better than that given to the annual A. L. A. meeting. He not only gets and gives new ideas of great practical value, but, much more important, he gets an inspiration for better and stronger work all the year."

That the force and truth of those statements has been justly realized is attested by the records of oft-repeated attendance on the part of various librarians who have years of service to their credit. The same facts should appeal

to the trustees no less, since it is a not uncommon result that ideas gained at the meetings may often profit the library for many years after. Hence the view held by numerous librarians that they cannot wisely miss the meetings, and that eventually the trustees will come to feel that they in turn cannot afford to have their librarian stay away.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS.

For this meeting the chief Canadian lines and the principal passenger traffic associations have authorized the customary round-trip rates of a fare and a third, on the certificate plan, from places in their territory. This practically includes all sections from within whose various limits there will be an attendance of 25 or more. Such rates are conditioned upon going and returning by the same route, and are somewhat restrictive as to stop-overs.

When buying tickets ask for certificates for attendance at the meeting of the American Library Association at Montreal. Agents at all important stations and coupon ticket offices are supplied with the necessary certificate forms. Lacking them, local tickets should be bought to the nearest point that is so provided.

Full first-class one-way fare must be paid in order to obtain a certificate. If a through ticket cannot be procured at the starting-point, purchase first to the most convenient trunk line point and there repurchase. *Obtain a standard certificate with each ticket. No reduction in return fare can be obtained without the certificate, countersigned at the meeting by both the secretary and the special agent of the Passenger Associations.*

Tickets on this plan may be purchased not earlier than June 2, or later than June 8. *Stop-over privileges not allowed returning, and the certificates are not transferable.*

The reduction is good for all who wish to make avail of it and attend the meeting. Tickets for the return journey, at one-third fare, may be purchased not later than June 20 upon surrender of a properly countersigned certificate. Bear in mind that the issue of certificates and tickets thereon entails extra labor and requires much more time than usual ticket selling. Therefore be on hand early, or give notice to the agents at least 30 minutes before departure of trains.

The certificate plan, it may be said, serves best the purposes of such as desire to make a very expeditious trip at the least outlay of time and money. The inconveniences of that plan are often reduced, however, and sometimes entirely avoided, by means of party arrangements, with consequent more freedom in route and stops. Therefore, those who can devote a little more time to the journey, and conform to certain advance details of routes and dates, would better make up or join some travel party from their respective section, so far as place or circumstances may admit of doing so.

PARTY PLANS

are in contemplation from three or more points of departure; and so far as it is found feasible to consummate such arrangements, they will be

subsequently announced. The customary summer excursion rates to Montreal will sometimes prove of advantage to those who wish a variable route at less than regular full fare each way.

POST-CONFERENCE AND LOCAL INFORMATION.

Following the customary practice of past years, a restful and attractive post-conference has been planned in continuation of this meeting. It will, in brief, include a trip by special boat from Montreal to and from the Saguenay River, which stops at Isle of Orleans, Tadoussac, and Chicoutimi in going, and at Quebec on the return. The individual expense will be very moderate, and the opportunities for both sightseeing and personal acquaintance exceptionally favorable.

Arrangements for the post-conference are being perfected by the local committee; and concerning this it will in due time make full announcement by circular. It is hoped that prompt response will be given to both that and the present circular. On general association matters address the undersigned, and as to local information apply to Mr. C. H. Gould, as before stated. HENRY J. CARR, Secretary.

SUPPLEMENTARY HANDBOOK.

The secretary of the A. L. A. has issued a "Supplementary handbook" for March, 1900, which gives in convenient form the revised constitution as subject to final vote at Montreal, officers and committees, a supplementary membership list from January, 1899, to February, 1900, a list of changed addresses, and a complete A. L. A. necrology from 1876-1899, prepared by Mrs. H. J. Carr. The latter is of special value as an important contribution to the "materials for history" of the A. L. A., and the time and labor that have gone to its preparation add to the large debt that the A. L. A. owes to Mrs. Carr for her continued services in its interest.

PLANS OF CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE.

The A. L. A. Co-operation Committee, Dr. E. C. Richardson, chairman, has formulated an outline scheme for treating the question of co-operative cataloging. This has been made with a view toward aiding in a thorough canvassing of the problems involved, but does not indicate any definite adoption of method.

It is pointed out that the question of co-operative cataloging is based on the fact that an average book costs for cataloging, by the time cards are finally in print, 35c., while a second set costs but 2c. Any two libraries by proper business organization may, therefore, get such books as they catalog in common cataloged for 18½c. each, plus cost of mailing and invoicing. Three libraries can do the same for 13c. and expenses, and so on. The economic problem is absolutely simple, and only needs a practical method, which recent improvements in printing, electrotyping, etc., should make possible.

The committee has, therefore, outlined two schemes, based largely upon the practical experience of the A. L. A. Publishing Section, the first regarding chiefly the cataloging of new books by sending copies of all orders to one

central bureau, as a clearing-house, the second contemplating extension of the system to all books cataloged by each library. In both cases an imaginary pool of the Harvard, John Crerar, and Princeton libraries were considered, to eliminate an entirely abstract point of view.

The first plan is as follows: 1. Harvard and Princeton send to John Crerar duplicates of all orders.

2. John Crerar catalogs all books in its list, and assigns to H. and P. titles for which each will be responsible among the remainder, leaving all uniques to be done by the library ordering.

3. Expense apportioned so that libraries cataloging most titles shall receive proportionate advantage.

4. Extension of scheme to indefinite number of co-operators.

Second scheme: 1. This contemplates modification of first scheme by having linotype bars or electrotypes of every book cataloged by each library kept on file by a central bureau, numbered with consecutive number.

2. A continuous alphabetical index of the titles in linotype. Weekly supplements to this index would be sent out to contributors, and new cumulative volumes published, say once a quarter.

3. All orders received up to the time of printing cards might share in the co-operative benefits; those received after would pay a special tax for cost of reprinting.

4. The titles stored by consecutive numbers might be printed from time to time, say every 10,000 titles, as volumes, the cumulative index serving as index to same, and the net result being in itself an important bibliographical work.

5. With a large cumulation of titles, libraries which needed recataloging and new libraries starting could get practically complete catalogs at less, perhaps very much less, than half what it would cost normally, and that even if no stock was kept and each one had to be printed separately.

6. A judicious amount of printed stock would also help in saving.

The necessary preliminaries to either scheme would be: 1, uniformity of cataloging rules; 2, agreement in printed card, style, and contents; 3, agreement in basis of charge; 4, agreement in central organization, which might be a special bureau working through the A. L. A. Publishing Section, or some great library, or a private commercial undertaking. To secure these, various practical suggestions are made, and definite recommendations along the lines noted are suggested for argument.

REPORT ON GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

Mr. George W. C. Stockwell, of the Westfield Athenæum, Westfield, Mass., has undertaken to prepare the A. L. A. report on gifts and bequests covering the two years 1899-1900. It is requested that all persons having knowledge of library gifts or bequests during that period, not recorded in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, should communicate the facts to Mr. Stockwell for this purpose.

State Library Commissions.

COLORADO STATE BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS: C. R. Dudley, chairman, Public Library, Denver.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss Anne Wallace, secretary, Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga.

INDIANA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: W. E. Henry, secretary, State Library, Indianapolis.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION. State Library, Des Moines.

KANSAS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: James L. King, secretary, Topeka.

MAINE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: G. T. Little, chairman, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

MICHIGAN F. P. L. COMMISSION: Mrs. M. C. Spencer, secretary, State Library, Lansing.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: A. H. Chase, secretary, State Library, Concord.

The New Hampshire Library Commission has issued the first number of a new *Bulletin*, in a most attractive and interesting 12-page pamphlet. It is devoted to library notes and brief articles, among them a short paper on "Library advertising," by H. L. Elmendorf; an account of "The first public library" as established in New Hampshire; and a strong plea for "Library extension in New England," by Dr. Wire. There is a biographical sketch, with portrait of the late Josiah Herbert Whittier, former secretary of the commission; the first of a series of proposed bibliographical lists, on "Birds"; and notes on the state library and state association. The *Bulletin* deserves success.

NEW JERSEY P. L. COMMISSION. The bill creating a state library commission, which was introduced several years ago, and in behalf of which the New Jersey State Library Association has labored persistently, through its special committee, was finally passed in March. The main features of the bill are described elsewhere by Mr. Buchanan, state librarian (*see p. 171*).

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Dr. G. E. Reed, secretary, State Library, Harrisburg.

VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock.

WISCONSIN FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

State Library Associations.

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Herbert E. Nash, Stanford University.

Secretary: J. H. Wood, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

Treasurer: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

The annual election of officers of the Library Association of California was held Jan. 12, 1900, at the Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco. The following officers were elected for 1900: *President*, Herbert S. Nash, Stanford University; *Vice-president*, Miss Nellie M. Russ, Pasadena (Cal.) Library; *Treasurer*, Miss E. I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco; *Secretary*, J. H. Wood, Mechanics' Institute Library, San Francisco.

In the absence of President Nash, Mr. F. J. Teggart presided.

The amendment to the constitution proposed at the June meeting was unanimously adopted. It provides for the holding of the meetings of the association on the second Friday of January, April, August, and November, instead of monthly meetings, as heretofore.

Mr. J. C. Rowell presented the following resolution, and the secretary was instructed to send a copy to each California Senator and Representative:

Resolved, That the Library Association of California approves and endorses "Senate Bill No. 266, to Establish a Library Post," and earnestly request the California delegation in the Senate and House to give it their support.

Mr. W. P. Kimball read a paper, entitled "California's need of a library school." The subject was very thoroughly reviewed by Mr. Kimball, and the paper well received.

Mr. Chas. S. Greene, librarian of the Oakland Public Library, exhibited some 60 lantern slides of the more prominent library buildings of the United States, giving a short sketch of each building. J. H. Wood, *Secretary*.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

Secretary: Herbert E. Richie, Public Library, Denver.

Treasurer: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. J. James, Wesleyan University Library, Middletown.

Secretary: Miss J. S. Heydrick, Pequot Library, Southport.

Treasurer: Miss Alice T. Cummings, Public Library, Hartford.

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Walter B. Hill, University of Georgia, Athens.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Anne Wallace, Carnegie Library, Atlanta.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. S. Willcox, Public Library, Peoria.

Secretary: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison St., Chicago.

Treasurer: Miss Mary B. Lindsay, Public Library, Evanston.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Helen Guild, Bloomington.

Secretary: W. E. Henry, State Library, Indianapolis.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie Fatout, Anderson.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. L. R. Gifford, Public Library, Cambridge.

Secretary: F. O. Poole, Boston Athenæum.

Treasurer: Miss Margaret D. McGuffy, Public Library, Boston.

The spring meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held in Providence on Thursday and Friday, April 5 and 6, with the express object of seeing the libraries of that city, and especially the new Public Library building.

The first assembling was in the lecture hall of the Public Library, where Mr. Foster gave a brief description of the plans. Then, with a printed list in hand of the points to which attention was especially called, the club divided into small groups, and was taken about the building.

In the evening the club met in the Y. M. C. A. building, where the formal business was transacted. The constitution was amended so that a life membership is \$10 instead of \$5, and there will be an admission fee of 50 cents.

Mr. George Parker Winship, librarian of the John Carter Brown Library, read a paper on the libraries of Providence, in which he mingled fact and fancy, which was much enjoyed.

Mr. Alfred Stone, one of the architects of the Public Library, closed the session by showing some lantern slide views of the building, with explanatory remarks.

The club then adjourned to the Public Library, to see it lighted by electricity instead of by sunlight, as in the afternoon.

On Friday morning, at 9.30, the members met at the library of the Rhode Island Historical Society, and later visited the Brown University Library and some of the college buildings, and, last of all, the Providence Athenæum. Some individuals went to see Pembroke Hall, the woman's college, and a very few got a glimpse of the John Carter Brown Library. The weather was fine, and every one felt well repaid.

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: H. H. Ballard, Berkshire Athenæum, Pittsfield.

Secretary: Miss F. Mabel Winchell, Forbes Library, Northampton.

Treasurer: Miss Mary M. Robison, Free Library, Amherst.

An interesting meeting of the Western Massachusetts Library Club was held in Grace Church parish house in Chicopee on March 28. It was presided over by the president of the club, H. H. Ballard, of the Berkshire Athenæum. There was a large attendance, and the papers and discussions held the close attention of those present. An address of welcome was given by City Clerk John D. White, chairman of the library trustees, who spoke also of the history and present work of the Chicopee Library.

The main subject of the morning session was opened by M. A. Dixon, of this city, who spoke on "The Sunday-school library, its office, and the choice of books." He reviewed the work that had already been done by committees and other bodies to improve the character of Sunday-school libraries and guide the reading of the pupils in the proper channels. An important need is that of suggested references for teachers. Supplemental work, both in reading and attention to art and sculpture, should not be omitted. Missionary work, or the work of some missionary supported wholly or partly by the school contributions, should also be a feature. He thought that it was manifestly the opportunity of the city or town library to direct some at least of its attention toward aiding the Sunday-school collection. "Begin with the determination to utilize whatever is available to improve the reading of the school. In a majority of cases I fear that the desirable books will be found comparatively unserviceable on account of exhaustive demands. Most schools will therefore find it wise to possess libraries of their own in addition to the use they make of public libraries. Let the books be selected with greatest care, a few at a time, endeavoring not to slight any of the important departments. Quite as important as the selection is the manner of announcing them to the public. Best of all, unless the school has plenty of means, is a complete card catalog of the books obtainable, arranged under titles and subjects and authors, supplemented by occasional lists, issued perhaps monthly, calling attention to desirable books. A committee consisting of three or five persons best adapted to this work should select the books."

Mr. Dixon was followed by Superintendent Brodeur, of Chicopee, on "The place of the Sunday-school library as a teaching factor," in which the qualifications and work of a well-equipped Sunday-school librarian were touched upon.

Papers upon the subject of "Co-operation between public and Sunday-school libraries" were read by Miss Farrar, of the Springfield City Library, Miss Squier, of Monson Library, and Mrs. Hawks, of the Williamsburg Library. In the discussion which followed, S. S. Green, of the Worcester Public Library, recommended

the use of pictures in the Sunday-school bearing upon biblical subjects. The public library should provide for this need, and such pictures as cannot be taken into the Sunday-school should be examined at the public library. Mr. Green recommended Schnorr's large woodcuts, Renan's pictures, Palestine photographs, and illustrated Bibles, such as Tissot's and Beda's.

Library matters of present interest were then discussed, and Miss Ashley, of the Springfield Library, described the system recently entered upon of providing duplicate copies of the popular works of fiction and loaning them for two cents a day. \$50 had already been cleared on the fees for the first month of its trial. The sentiment of the meeting was that the plan is one to be recommended. During the intermission which followed, lunch was served at the Veranus Casino, by invitation of the trustees and librarian of the Chicopee City Library, and the members then visited the library.

The afternoon session was opened by S. S. Green, of Worcester, who spoke on the question "How far is it best to provide books in foreign languages for the foreign-speaking population?" In the Worcester library there are from 250 to 300 Swedish works, as there is a large Swedish element that desires such reading. There are two delivery stations for the Swedes. Mr. Green thought it best to have foreign books, if desired, in the library, especially for the older people, who will not learn English, and who should be provided for. The younger people attend day schools and evening schools, and show a preference for English books.

The closing paper was given by H. H. Ballard, of Pittsfield, and was a report on "The investigation to ascertain what influences the borrower in his choice of books." In January the Western Massachusetts Library Club printed 15,500 copies of a circular asking librarians to learn from their patrons what most influenced them in their choice of books. 22 out of 50 libraries responded, with 3989 borrowers represented. Of these 2970, or nearly 75 per cent., were over 16 years of age. In 1779 cases the choice was their own, and in 982 cases the choice was influenced by some one else, either a friend or the librarian; 327 made their selections from the shelves, 376 from lists of new books, 449 from books set out in the delivery-room, 627 from the general catalog, 321 from reading notices and reviews, 145 from illustrations, 143 by the style of type, 107 from interest in the author, 80 from the binding, 69 from interest in the subject, and four from the title. The choice of fiction ranged from 100 to 64 per cent. in different libraries. With those under 16, the choice of fiction was 92 per cent. of the books drawn, and with adults 80 per cent. Mr. Ballard realized that these statistics are not a sure index of the character of the reading done. Also some unexpected conclusions were drawn from the result of the investigation. It is plain that people will draw books that they can get at with the least difficulty; hence if the library is to exert an influence, as it should, on the choice of reading, the best and most useful books should be made conspicuous.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Miss Genevieve M. Walton, Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.

Treasurer: Miss N. S. Loving, Public School Library, Ann Arbor.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary: Miss Minnie McGraw, Public Library, Mankato.

Treasurer: Miss Anne Hammond, Public Library, St. Paul.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. I. Wyer, State University Library, Lincoln.

Secretary: Miss Bertha Baumer, Public Library, Omaha.

Treasurer: Miss M. A. O'Brien, Public Library, Omaha.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. H. Chase, Concord.

Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Treasurer: Miss E. A. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. E. C. Richardson, Princeton University Library.

Secretary: Miss Clara W. Hunt, Free Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

Secretary: Miss Martha Mercer, Public Library, Mansfield.

Treasurer: Miss K. W. Sherwood, Public Library, Cincinnati.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Allen C. Thomas, Haverford College, Haverford.

Secretary: Luther E. Hewitt, Law Library, 600 City Hall, Philadelphia.

Treasurer: Miss Mary Z. Cruice, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss Helen Sperry, Carnegie Library, Homestead.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Mary F. Macrum, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Mrs. Charles S. Morris, Berlin.

Secretary: Miss Minnie M. Oakley, State Historical Society, Madison.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie C. Silverthorn, Public Library, Wausau.

NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

Library Clubs.

BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

Secretary: Mrs. C. A. Fuller, Oxford, Mass.

Treasurer: Miss Nellie A. Cutter, Spencer, Mass.

LIBRARY CLUB OF BUFFALO.

President: H. L. Elmendorf, Public Library.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss A. S. Woodcock, Grosvenor Library.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

Secretary: Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Normal School.

Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison st., Chicago.

The regular meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held March 8, at the Sherman House. The subject for discussion was the work of home libraries, libraries in jails, settlements, and kindred institutions in Chicago. The program was in the hands of a committee, of which Miss Ahern was chairman. The meeting was an open one, and all known to be interested in such work were invited. The result was one of the largest meetings in the history of the club. Mr. Hicknell, superintendent of the Bureau of Associated Charities, Chicago, gave a fine address, using a letter from a woman in whose home a home library had been for his text. It was a remarkably suggestive letter, and in the hand of such an able speaker brought out all the problems known to the workers.

A report of the work of the home library of the Chicago Library Club was read by the chairman. It showed steady growth in the demand for such work. A library of some 300 volumes, collected by the director of the settlement work in the Jones Public School, in the heart of the city, is kept open four nights and two afternoons each week. A report was given by Mr. W. R. Moss, who has charge of the library in the county jail, which is also under a committee of the Chicago Library Club. He reported a library of some 400 volumes. A prisoner acts as librarian who was a librarian for several years before his sentence. He first takes the catalog of books to each cell, collects the books which have been read by the prisoners, and gives them a chance to select what they wish. He then delivers the books to the cells. This takes him from Wednesday to Sunday noon each week. Mr. Moss estimated that if 500 good, readable volumes could be placed in the library and \$25 a year given to its support afterward, the work could be effectually carried on. The library at All Souls'

Church is open every day and has all the aims of a free public library in reaching schools, teachers, clubs, children, etc. The magazine club of the church collects magazines, sorts and sends them to all parts of the country wherever they are wanted. Over 4000 magazines were distributed in 1899. The Helen Heath Settlement has a library of 500 volumes. It is open one evening each week. Maxwell Street Settlement has a collection of 800 volumes and is open every evening. Elm Street Settlement reported a library of several hundred. It is open a couple of times a week, but is greatly in need of some one to take charge of the work. Neighborhood House reported a small library in active operation. Mr. Weller reported on the home library work of the Bureau of Associated Charities. It is hoped some effective means of co-operation between these libraries, and perhaps the large libraries of Chicago, will result from this meeting.

IRENE WARREN, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Dr. J. S. Billings, N. Y. Public Library.

Secretary: W. H. Duncan, Jr., Brooklyn Public Library, Flatbush Branch.

Treasurer: Miss Harriet Husted, Y. W. C. A. Library.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: H. L. Prince, Librarian U. S. Patent Office.

Secretary: W. L. Boyden, Librarian Supreme Council 33° A. A. Order of Scottish Rite.

Treasurer: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

Meetings: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

The 46th regular meeting of the Washington Library Association was held at the Columbian University, Wednesday evening, March 14, with the president, Howard L. Prince, in the chair.

The executive committee reported the election to membership of Miss Fanny M. Allen, of the Library of the Department of Agriculture, and William D. Goddard and G. William Reinmiller, of the Library of Congress.

The first paper of the evening was by Prof. Edward J. Farquhar, the subject being "Making the library useful." The interesting paper evoked discussion by Miss Clarke and Messrs. Hutcheson, Cutter, Bolton, Adler, Prince, Slauson, and Mann.

The second paper was by Mr. Allan B. Slauson, "Opening of the reading-room for periodicals at the Library of Congress." During his talk Mr. Slauson described some of the novel furniture of the department of periodicals, and spoke of that department as being the largest of its kind in the world.

Mr. Charles Martel read a paper entitled "Notices of some recent books," in which he reviewed some of the recent publications, mainly foreign, and placed before the association the books under discussion.

WM. L. BOYDEN, *Secretary*.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

Several members of the library school accompanied by the director attended the joint meeting of the New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Washington Library Associations on March 29-30. The students had a most enjoyable time, besides profiting by the many interesting papers read at the sessions, and by the visit to the Library of Congress, where they were kindly shown the workings of the great national library in all its various departments, from the top to the bottom of the building. They also visited the Public Library of Washington, which is so soon to have a fine building, and the Bureau of Education, where the A. L. A. library is housed.

On April 2 the library school had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. Charles A. Cutter, who spoke to the class on the Expansive Classification, giving an interesting account of its history and characteristics.

On the evening of March 28 a pleasant social session was enjoyed by the library school staff and students, when considerable ingenuity was exercised by some of the students in presenting the titles of books in the form of charades.

Caspar G. Dickson, class of '99, has been appointed an assistant in the Library of Congress.

Miss Susan W. Randall, class of '97, was recently appointed assistant librarian in the library of the University of Pennsylvania.

Miss Edith N. Gawthrop and Miss M. E. Stanger, class of '99, have been added to the permanent staff of the University of Pennsylvania.

Miss Laura B. Hixson, class of '99, has been made librarian of the Starr Library, Philadelphia.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

BOSTON VISIT.

The ninth annual library visit of the school will be made this year to Boston and New England libraries during the 10 days April 3-13. It will include visits to the Springfield City Library; the Case, Theological, Watkinson, Connecticut Historical and Public libraries of Hartford; the Public, American Antiquarian and Law libraries of Worcester; the leading libraries and publishing houses of Boston; the Medford Public Library; the Public, Athenæum and Brown University libraries of Providence; Harvard University, Public and Episcopal Theological libraries of Cambridge; and the libraries of Salem and Brookline.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

COURSE OF TRAINING FOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS.

This course was first offered in 1899 to graduates of the one-year course of any of the library schools, or to those experienced in library work who could pass the entrance examinations and who seemed to have the necessary personal qualifications.

Two graduates of the school and one library assistant registered for the course in October, 1899, and are now (April 1) entering upon their

term of practice, having had some practical work, however, almost since the beginning of the course.

The curriculum has been divided into four parts; first, the study of the routine of the children's library, in which the methods of various libraries in their dealings with children are compared and commented on in seminar twice a week. These seminars have been conducted by the children's librarian, the director assisting. Second, the study of children's books and periodicals divided by classes. This has taken the form of lectures and discussions, and the class were required to do stated work in the way of comparison, investigation, criticism, and recommendation. Books were commented on as follows: Books of reference suitable for children's libraries, by the head of the reference department, Miss Woodruff; children's periodicals, by Miss Plummer; children's books in ethics and religion, by Miss Alice E. Fitts, director of the Department of Kindergartens, Pratt Institute; in natural science, by Miss Emerson, instructor in science in the Department of Kindergartens; in literature, by Miss Plummer; in biography and travel, by Miss Moore, the children's librarian; in history, by Miss Rathbone, chief instructor in the one-year course; in fiction, by Miss Moore; books in and on music, by Miss Mary L. Avery, of the Lenox Library; children's illustrators and books on the fine arts, by Miss Palmer, head of the art reference department, and Mr. Arthur W. Dow, instructor in composition and design, Department of Fine Arts, Pratt Institute; children's books in mythology and fairy tales, by Miss Collar, of the library staff; in useful arts, by Mr. A. W. Wiliston, director of the Department of Science and Technology. This immense field could not, of course, be covered; nothing but long experience and practical acquaintance with children's books will make the children's librarian mistress of this part of her subject; but some insight into principles of criticism and selection can be given, some study of the adaptation of given books to individual types of children can be prescribed. This is one of the most important parts of the course, since most librarians are too busy to have a first-hand knowledge of the books written for children, and a study of these books is apt to give one a succession of surprises, as well as to reveal gaps that need filling in certain lines of reading and study.

The third part of the course consists of the study of work allied to that of children's libraries, such as the work of home libraries, of travelling libraries, of co-operation between libraries and schools, of visits to children's libraries in the vicinity, etc.

The fourth part of the course is the study of the first-year mother play and the first and second-year story-telling, in the Department of Kindergartens, and the study of Froebel's "Education of man" with the director of the Library School, this class taking seminar form. A course of required reading is prescribed for the year, including works on education, on

children's books, historically considered, psychology, etc.

The practical work is graded, so to speak, from the practice in mending, in filing, and in the clerical work of the Children's Department, to the selection of books for the children, the handling of the desk at "rush hours," the making of useful reading lists and bulletins, etc.

The writing of brief biographical or explanatory sketches (no easy task) to accompany pictures for exhibitions, the classification of clippings and pictures for easy reference, are a part of the work required. A satisfactory thesis and a picture exhibit must be submitted before graduation.

During the spring term, when the lectures on children's books in botany, zoology, and entomology are given, a series of excursions will be made, enabling the students to visit the haunts of wild flowers, native birds, etc., and make notes for future reference.

The course does not pretend to be a final equipment for the children's librarian. It is meant to be suggestive, provocative of individual thinking, inspirational, and to send out students who will remain life-long students of their inexhaustible subject from sheer interest in it and appreciation of its possibilities. MARY W. PLUMMER, *Director*.

NOTES.

During March the following lectures were given before the Library School: a lecture on "Impressions in library criticism," by Miss Helen E. Haines; on "Children's books," by Miss Caroline M. Hewins; and on "Russian literature," by Mme. Sophie Friedland.

The students attended the annual joint meeting of the New York Library Club and State Library Association, held in New York, March 8. Following the morning session was the annual luncheon of the Graduates' Association of the Pratt Institute Library School. 62 members were present, including a number of the present class and several honorary members.

A term reception was given by the library on the evening of March 22 to the faculty and instructors of the institute. Mrs. Margaret Deland was the guest of honor. Before the reception, Mrs. Deland gave a most delightful lecture on the novel.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The library school has issued its "Circular of information" for 1900-1901, a well-printed pamphlet of 16 pages, giving a descriptive sketch of the school, lists of graduates, positions held, etc.

EXTRA LECTURES.

Lectures in bibliography have been given since the last report by Professor Myers, Professor of Astronomy and Applied Mathematics; Professor Parr, head of the Department of Applied Chemistry; Professor Kofoid, Director of the University Biological Station; and Professor Davenport, Dean of the College of Agriculture. The students have been fortunate in

attending a course of fine lectures given by Professor H. Morse Stephens on our colonial policy. Professor Stephens gave an extra lecture on Rudyard Kipling, to which the Library School was specially invited.

MURAL PAINTINGS.

The pictures in the four lunettes of the rotunda of the library building were unveiled with a simple appropriate ceremony on March 13. These pictures are by Professor Newton A. Wells. They represent the four oldest colleges of the university: Literature and arts, Science, Engineering, and Agriculture. This month, for the first time, the library building is free from scaffolding, and may be considered completed. The pictures will be reproduced in leading art magazines before long.

LIBRARY VISITS.

Miss Elliott and Miss Bennett attended the annual meeting of the Illinois State Library Association at East St. Louis, and visited the St. Louis Public Library with several former students and the director. Mr. Crunden and his staff were most generous in explaining the working of their library.

20 members of the senior class are to visit Chicago libraries, April 5-12, and the libraries have been very cordial in preparing for the visit. The Chicago members of the Illinois State Library School Association will give the students a reception on the evening of their arrival.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

The Library in its second number for March maintains the excellent standard previously set and contains a variety of noteworthy and interesting material. The frontispiece portrait of Richard Copley Christie is accompanied by a biographical appreciation of Mr. Christie's library services. Dr. Hosmer writes "In praise of the novel," and Dr. Garnett discusses "Early Spanish-American printing." Things American are considered in Mr. Crunden's second paper describing the work of the St. Louis Public Library, and in Mrs. Fairchild's excellent "American notes," while other papers include an interesting account of "The Frankfurt book mart," by George Smith; "Accessions—the checking of the processes," by L. Stanley Jast; and a contribution on the perennial "Open-access question," by W. E. Doubleday, who belongs to the opposition; while bibliography proper is represented by papers from A. W. Pollard, R. Proctor, Henry R. Plomer, and Cyril Davenport.

LOCAL.

Albion, N. Y. Swan P. L. The handsome library building given to Albion by the late William G. Swan has been a center of activity since its dedication on Jan. 31. The building was erected from a bequest of \$35,000 left by Mr. Swan for the purpose. It is established in a remodelled residence, centrally located on the corner of Main and State streets, the property being purchased at a cost of \$6000. The build-

ing is a large square, substantial brick structure, made as nearly fireproof as possible, with metal roof and cornice on the exterior, and by the use of asbestos plaster and fireproof floors in the interior.

On the first floor there is a large reading-room extending the whole length of the house, at the right of the main entrance. It is handsomely panelled, and finished with two alcove bridges, supported by columns, to break the space. The room is well lighted by windows on three sides. It contains cases for reference books and communicates with the librarian's desk. A door at the left of the librarian's desk opens into the stack-room, while a window at the right opening into the hall permits the receiving and delivery of books without disturbance to the readers. Another large room on this floor is the stack-room, which is equipped with steel shelving. The trustees' room, also containing book shelves, opens into the library in front. The front hall is tiled and opens into the trustees' room on one side and the reading-room on the other. A staircase leads to the rooms above, one of which, extending across the entire front of the building, lighted by many windows, will be used for the meetings of the literary clubs of the village, and also for subscription concerts and other entertainments of that nature. Two open fireplaces at each end of the room give it a cheerful look; it is painted in soft tints and carpeted to correspond. Sliding doors opening the entire width of the room will divide it into two smaller rooms when necessary. At its full size it will accommodate about 150 persons. Toilet and cloak rooms adjoin. There are likewise on the floor a ladies' parlor and a dining-room, the latter communicating by means of a dumb-waiter with the kitchen in the basement, thus providing for the social features of the clubs.

In the basement there is a kitchen fitted up with gas ranges and every necessary convenience. A large front room in the basement will probably be devoted to the needs of a boys' club. The whole building is heated with hot water and lighted with electricity and gas, and speaking tubes communicate with the different rooms.

The public libraries of the village and of the town, two separate collections of books, until now occupying rooms at the central school-house, have been removed to the Swan Library. They are composed of between 5000 and 6000 volumes. There are about 1200 cardholders enrolled on the books of these libraries, and the average circulation for 1897 was about 18,000. The new building has a book capacity of 14,000 volumes at present, and there is ample capacity for growth in the future. About 1000 new books have been purchased with money from Mr. Swan's bequest, and many other gifts of books have also been received. The several collections of books comprising the three libraries will be kept distinct by different book-plates. It is thought there will be nearly \$600 available from different sources to expend annually on new books. Miss Lillian A. Achilles is librarian.

Ann Arbor, Mich. At a lecture recently given before the University Club of Ann Arbor, Mr. B. A. Finney, of the University of Michigan, gave an interesting review of the development of the art of printing, with special reference to the Gutenberg quincennial to be held in Mayence in June next. His lecture was illustrated with over 60 excellent views, and he spoke especially of the recently discovered *missale speciale* of Constance, which has awakened bibliographical interest in Europe.

Appleton (Wis.) P. L. The new library building was dedicated on March 28 with elaborate exercises. The building, which houses the city hall and the library, is of gray Bedford stone, two stories in height, and ample in size for all the requirements of the city for years to come. It was built at a cost of \$25,000, and though unfortunately located, it is an ornament to the city. The lower floor is occupied by the public library, with a large main book-room, from which open two large reading-rooms, with a private office for the librarian at the rear.

Bangor (Me.) P. L. (17th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 1425; total 46,213. Issued, home use 44,174 (fict. and juv. 33,268); reading-room use 31,081. Cards in use 958. It is said that "hundreds of our books need re-binding, and a very large number should be replaced"—a continuing result of the fire of 1893.

Belfast (Me.) F. L. (Rpt.—year ending Feb. 28, 1900.) Added 683; total 8859. Issued, home use 24,026 (fict. 12,840; juv. 4489). New registration 307; total registration 1261.

"Last August there was held at our library a meeting of all the librarians from towns in the vicinity of Belfast. Nearly 20 persons responded to our invitation. It was a most enjoyable and profitable occasion. Three college librarians eminent in their profession, who were on a vacation in Castine, were kind enough to give us of their best in the way of helpful suggestions and information about library methods.

"In October, by payment of five dollars, our library joined the Library Art Club, and became entitled to a share in the sets of travelling pictures which are sent about New England. The exhibitions have excited much enthusiastic interest and have brought many visitors to our library."

Boston P. L. On March 26 the Millmore bust of Wendell Phillips was presented to the library by the Wendell Phillips Memorial Association.

Brookline (Mass.) P. L. The library has adopted a special school "class card," colored yellow, upon which teachers may draw 20 books for the use of their class, to be retained four weeks. These books may be used in the classroom or issued to pupils for home use, and slips are furnished on which record of school use may be kept. A list of the books in the "school reference collection" has been issued in a well-printed 20-page pamphlet.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. At the annual meeting of the directors, held Feb. 21., David A.

Boody was re-elected president of the board, and John W. De Voy was elected treasurer, succeeding H. F. Gunnison, resigned. The librarian's annual report showed that 183,430 v. had been circulated during the year.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. Flatbush Branch. The first anniversary of the founding of the library was celebrated on the evening of Feb. 21, when addresses were made and a reception was held in the pleasant library rooms, 5 Caton avenue.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. A. At the annual meeting of the association, held on March 8, it was announced that steps had been taken toward a vacation house and home by the sea for librarians whose health has been broken down in service or who otherwise are disabled for duty in their calling. The names of the direct promoters of the vacation house were withheld, but it was said that a site had been given on the Long Island shore, and money promised to erect a house which will fulfil the needs of a vacation home and rest resort. It is expected that the work will be begun in the early summer.

The association declined to change its name, as requested by the authorities of the Brooklyn Public Library.

Burlington, Vt. Fletcher F. L. (26th rpt., 1899.) Added 760; total 26,120. Issued, home use 52,005 (fict. and juv. 38,329). New registration 721. About 1000 v. were issued to teachers for use during the school term.

Cleveland (O.) P. L. At its March meeting the library board adopted a resolution to conduct a school of library science next summer, similar to that of two years ago.

Cleveland (O.) P. L. On the evening of March 27 Miss Graeff, Supervisor of Kindergartens in Cleveland, gave a delightful talk to those of the assistants in the Cleveland Public Library who are especially interested in the children's work. Miss Graeff gave the essentials of a good story for little children, and the variation of these essentials as the children grow older; she classified stories broadly from the standpoint of child training, and illustrated her talk by telling several typical stories. It was proposed to follow this introductory talk by a critical study of stories.

Colby College, Waterville, Me. The college has introduced a course on books and libraries by the librarian, Prof. E. W. Hall. A course of lectures is given at the beginning of the second year, designed to acquaint the student with the practical use of libraries and books. The topics discussed include a sketch of the development of the college library, systems of classification, principles of cataloging, library ethics, place of the library in education, ancient libraries, great modern libraries, methods of reading, manuscripts, early printed books, sizes and bindings, enemies of books, and treatment of books and pamphlets. Attendance is required of both divisions of the Sophomore class, one hour per week, first term.

Colorado Springs (Col.) P. L. (Rpt., 1899.) Total 4800. Issued 35,694, an increase of 5613

over 1898. Increased library facilities are needed, "among them the classification and cataloging of the books."

Denver (Colo.) P. L. The library reached the high-water mark of its daily circulation record in February, when on one day 1985 v. were issued.

Gloucester (Mass.) F. L. The free public library established and intended for the public benefit of Gloucester by Rev. J. J. Healy, of St. Anne's Catholic Church, was completed in February. In his announcement of the completion of the library, Father Healy says: "I am now ready to present it with all that it contains to the city, asking only the usual guarantee for its support and permanent usefulness. I would gladly do this to-day were I not so discouraged by the financial presentation in that direction of our recent inaugural address. I regret my inability to accompany this presentation with the proper amount for endowment. I now hold it ready for the city until it is ready for the requisite appropriation. And in the meantime I will support it to the best of my ability, and give the public the best accommodations possible under the circumstances. It will be open to all our citizens alike, without distinction of creed or nationality. I regret as much as anybody the exclusion of the children under 16 years of age; and this restriction I hope soon to see removed, when our city signifies its readiness to accept the burden of its support and management."

The library is a handsome brick building, two storied, with a light and well-finished basement, and centrally located, adjoining the parochial residence. Above the entrance is a tablet inscribed, in raised letters, "Free City Library," with a second inscription, "The gift of Rev. J. J. Healy, P.R." The interior furnishings are all attractive and substantial. It was not known for what purpose the building was intended until it had been practically completed.

Hartford (Ct.) Athenæum. An exhibition of the magnificent series of John Gould's works on birds, recently presented to the Athenæum by J. Pierpont Morgan, of New York, was held from March 19 to 24. The series includes 14 of Gould's works, in 48 folio volumes, richly bound in full morocco. It is believed to be the most complete set in the United States.

Harvard Univ. L., Cambridge. An interesting enterprise has been taken up by the library at the suggestion of the university council. A circular-letter has been issued by the librarian, addressed to every college officer, asking his co-operation in the plan. This is, that in order to bring together for future generations a complete record of the daily life of the university, every professor, instructor, and officer of the university, old and young, will keep for one month a careful journal of his daily doings, recording faithfully and in detail his college work, his professional interests, his family relations, his amusements, and all the elements of his life. Each man is urged to write as he would to a distant friend. By the individual lives it is hoped to obtain a composite life of the university, and one month is considered time

enough to form excellent material. The journals when completed will be sealed by the writers themselves and deposited in a zinc-lined chest carefully soldered and locked. The chest will be stowed away, and the only two keys will be kept by the president and librarian. It will remain absolutely closed until 1925, but no general use of the records will be permitted before 1960. Between 1925 and 1960 an individual record may be opened, with the permission of the library council, and the contents used if the writer has died and the material is needed for biographical purposes.

Dr. Charles A. Cameron was arrested early in March on the charge of stealing 100 book-plates from some of the most valuable books in the university library. It was learned by the librarian that during the latter part of January many of the books had been mutilated. Covers had been cut from volumes and plates had been cut out. In all 100 volumes had thus suffered. Mr. Lane reported the matter to the Pinkerton agency, where it was learned that Dr. Cameron had been granted special library privileges. He professed to be studying Canadian history and frequently visited the section of the library from which plates had been missed. Then it became known that collectors in Bridgeport, New York, Philadelphia, and Boston had been offered the missing plates. A Bridgeport collector bought 20 plates for \$50, and 15 of the plates purchased at Bridgeport were identified by Mr. Lane. Three of those sold in Philadelphia were also procured and identified. These sales were made by Dr. Cameron, but sufficient evidence could not be produced to warrant his arrest. Finally the Pinkerton representative arranged to buy plates from the suspected man, in the character of a collector, and in this way direct proofs were secured. Dr. Cameron was held in the Cambridge Municipal Court in \$1500 bail. He claims that he came honestly by the plates. He is said to be a man of good Canadian family.

Helena (Mont.) P. L. The report of the acting librarian, Miss M. C. Gardiner, for 1899, gives the following facts: Added 3973; total 29,126. Issued 89,078. New registration 914; cards in use 6842. The library is "again greatly inconvenienced by lack of room."

Hopedale (Mass.) P. L. (14th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '99.) Added 722; total 7557. Issued, home use 11,726 (fict. 748); visitors to reading-room 9831. New cardholders 156; total 1609. Receipts and expenses \$1742.99.

The report is largely given up to an account of the handsome new Bancroft Memorial Building, in which the library is now housed; there is an excellent frontispiece of the building.

Indianapolis (Ind.) P. L. The library was recently made the subject of widespread comments in the newspaper press regarding what was said to be its policy in withdrawing from its shelves Daudet's "Sapho" and other books considered undesirable for general reading. The reports were evidently based upon a "story" originated by a local paper, its foundation being simply the usual library practice of

keeping such books, so that they are not issued to young readers, but are easily accessible to adults. "Ever since the library first existed," says Miss Browning, "books of this character, together with out-of-print and very expensive books, have always been designated by a single star, which means 'not for use without permission.'" The newspaper "story," however, like many of its kind, gathered details as it spread from Maine to California, and items have appeared rebuking the library for "throwing out" Daudet, Hardy, Frederic, James Lane Allen, George Meredith, and many others. Perhaps the oddest feature of the matter was the grave assertion that this "throwing out" was done according to instructions from the American Library Association, and that all members of the A. L. A. were pledged to pursue this method of elimination!

Kansas City (Mo.) P. L. (18th rpt.—year ending June 30, '99.) Added 4465; total "between 40,000 and 50,000" v. Issued, home use 179,693 (fict. 86,661; juv. 63,196); reading-room use 123,697. Over 14,000 cards are in use.

The chairman of the library committee says: "This has been the most successful year in the history of the library. The people are all the while realizing more fully what is here being accomplished. In a few more years there will have been built up from small beginnings one of the great libraries of the middle west."

Mrs. Whitney refers to the beginning of a printed catalog, which will be issued in 10 parts, and to the efforts being made to establish closer relations between the library and the schools. The children's department has gained steadily in popularity, and now "finds its present quarters crowded to the utmost limit."

Lancaster (Mass.) P. L. (37th rpt.—year ending Feb. 28, 1900.) Added 1004; total 29,454. Issued, home use 12,074 (fict., incl. juv. 59,72%). New registration 116; total registration 735. Receipts and expenses \$1952.51.

During the year a collection of Perry pictures has been circulated among the schools, the classification and mounting adopted being briefly described. The excess of volumes in the library over the circulation statistics is rather surprising, and the tabulation of circulation statistics from 1872 does not show the gradual growth that might be expected.

A catalog of the accessions since March 1, 1899, is appended.

Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L. (11th rpt.—year ending Nov. 30, '99.) Added 4556; total 51,334. Issued, home use 358,898 (fict. 37.14%; juv. fict. 8.10%; unbound magazines 16.02%); ref. use 49,453. New registration 4194; active membership 27,322. Receipts \$34,731.42; expenses \$23,886.15. The number of volumes of fiction is given as approximately 8000, with a circulation of 194,367; the adoption of the St. Louis reserve duplicate plan is recommended. Next to fiction in the extent of circulation comes the school and juvenile collection of about 6500 v., which have been issued 76,230 times. There has been a decrease in circulation, repeating the experience of the previous year. Notwithstanding this, "a tabulation made up of the

statistics gathered by the Bureau of Labor in 1899 shows that we continue to turn the books more times than other libraries with which we have a right to compare ourselves, either by population, by size of library, or by extent of circulation. I have made no comparison by appropriation, for no library in the country is asked to do similar work on the same amount of money."

"The effort to systematize the work of the staff, begun last year, has been still further advanced by the presentation of monthly reports by the principals of departments to the librarian. A new blank has been furnished for the purpose; also a form of requisition for supplies has been added. Each principal makes out, fortnightly, the list of materials needed; after being filled these requisitions are checked and filed by departments, thus preserving a permanent record of the expense incurred at the various desks."

Manila, Philippine Is. A bill to establish a public library in Manila was introduced into the U. S. Senate on March 15. It provides "That the sum of \$5000 be appropriated for the rental and preparation in the city of Manila, Philippine Islands, of a suitable building for use as a library, and also for the pay of a librarian for the period of one year; said library to be used for the distributing and circulating of books already donated by the people of the United States for the use of American soldiers and sailors. Said amount to be made immediately available and to be expended by the trustees of said library."

Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L. (21st and 22d rpts., —2 years ending Aug. 31, '99.) Added 19,397; total 111,285. Issued, home use 1897-8, 405,858 (fict. 33.4%; juv. fict. 27%); 1898-9, 449,132 (fict. 33.8%; juv. fict. 28.6%). In 1898-9 22,154 v. were issued 78,614 times by teachers in schools. Borrowers' cards now in use number 25,629.

The occupancy of the fine new building has greatly increased the facilities and possibilities of the library's work. In the reference-room the number of visitors has steadily increased. The children's room on the third floor contains 7715 v. on open shelves. "In July, after a period of 10 months of use, a careful inventory showed a loss of only two books." Besides cataloging the 20,000 v. purchased in the past two years the cataloging department completed an author card catalog for public use. "A great deal of work has been done toward completing the subject catalog."

New York F. C. L. (20th rpt., 1899.) Total additions (divided among the 11 libraries) 16,577; total v. 157,777. Issued, home use 1,637,052 (fict. 35%; juv. 29%); lib. use 195,277. New registration 26,471; total registration 146,837. Receipts \$98,496.86; expenses \$98,411.17.

The varied activities of this widely distributed system are set forth as usual in reports from the several branches and departments. In his summary of the year's work, Mr. Wing points out that the circulation shows a marked advance, "not only in the number of volumes

circulated, but in the character of the books read. So great has been and is the demand for books for home reading that sufficient funds have not been available to properly equip our libraries with much-needed books of reference." The removal of the Harlem branch in May to a suitable building on East 125th street, and the opening of the Chatham square branch in July have made important additions to the library system. The latter has a specially interesting children's department, toward which \$1000 was given by Mrs. Susan Travers as a memorial of the late Miss Emily Binsse. "The open-shelf system, wherever introduced, may be said to have come to stay, notwithstanding certain losses and the greatly increased wear and tear of the books incident to much handling." "Along the line of library extension into parts of the city totally lacking in library facilities it is suggested that delivery stations be established in connection with certain of our branches—i.e., each branch to be, so to speak, a center of small stations, and each station in charge of a trained librarian, with possibly one assistant, and open weekdays from 3 till 9 p.m., the work of each station to be considered as a part of the work of some one central branch. The experiment might be tried to advantage through Bruce and Otten-dorfer, by renting in tenement districts small stores, where could be kept about 1000 volumes of popular books for the young, the intention being to make the stations virtually small libraries for boys and girls, which in time would develop into established, well-organized branches. The annual expense of each station need not be more than \$2000."

The change of administration, caused by the resignation of Mr. Bostwick to become librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library and the appointment of Mr. J. N. Wing, was made early in the year, and later Miss Teresa Hitchler, head cataloger, resigned to accept a position in the Brooklyn library, her place being filled by Miss Emma Cragin.

There are numerous illustrations of the various branches, and the report is interesting in its presentation of widely extended activity, and of the varied reading population of a great city. Appended to the branch reports is a special report on the use of the books supplied the floating hospitals of St. John's Guild through the travelling library department.

N. Y. P. L. — *Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.* The bill removing the limit of \$2,000,000 on the construction cost of the new library building was passed by the legislature in February. It is now in the hands of Mayor Van Wyck.

Among recent gifts received by the library is a fund of \$2200, to be known as the Richard L. Dugdale Fund, to be applied to the purchase of sociological and economic books, left by Mr. Dugdale's sister.

Another gift offered at the February meeting of the board, on which action was deferred, is a collection of 1000 menus, each from a different hotel or restaurant, collected by Miss F. E. Buttle. These were offered to the library on condition that they are to be sealed and to

remain so until one-half of the next century is over, as it is the giver's desire that the coming generations may see what their ancestors ate.

New York City, University Club L. (Rpt. — year ending Feb. 28, 1900.) Added 1504; total 10,810; spent for book \$2638.14. The chief accessions of the year are noted.

Northampton, Mass. Forbes L. (5th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '99.) Added 7940; total 66,515. Issued, home use 66,440; lib. use 10,115. Registration in force 4456.

Mr. Cutter says: "At the end of our first five years we can look upon our progress with satisfaction. We have organized the library, inaugurated the freest system of distribution known, built up an annual circulation of over 76,000 volumes in a city of less than 17,000 inhabitants which had already two free public libraries, have selected and purchased at a cost of \$85,000 over 65,000 volumes and nearly 11,000 other objects, and have received in bequests and gifts 6467 volumes and 8096 other objects. On the other hand, the space upon our shelves is nearly exhausted, and though we now have an author catalog, such as it is, we have no title catalog except in the section fiction, and we are still without a subject catalog, which is at least as important."

The lack of assistance that has hampered cataloging work is the chief administrative difficulty, yet it is pointed out that the uncataloged books are placed as freely as possible at the reader's disposal. Purchases have been reduced, so that time may be more fully devoted to cataloging arrears and recent accessions, but "unluckily for the cataloging, whatever time we saved by incorporating fewer new books, had to be given to our larger circulation, which was nearly one-fifth more than the year before."

In the registration an interesting innovation has been made, in making a single registration system for both the Forbes and the City Library, the latter library adopting the method of the former. Thus "borrowers who wished to use both libraries might not have two library systems to learn and two library numbers to remember; those who were already registered at the Forbes Library should receive the Forbes number as their new number at the City Library, and those who had not yet registered at the Forbes should receive a number in the Forbes series and pockets entitling them to the use of both libraries. Hereafter, therefore, the list of borrowers in the two libraries will be precisely the same, and all borrowers will have at their command 100,000 volumes instead of some having 70,000 and some 30,000."

Numerous exhibitions of pictures and photographs and of special collections have been shown.

Oakland (Cal.) P. L. At their March meeting the trustees completed and adopted a prospectus for the new library building, and also formally selected the jury of awards in the plan competition, naming J. G. Rowell, librarian of the University of California, G. W. Percy, architect, and Albert Pissis, also an architect.

Owatonna (Minn.) P. L. The new library building was dedicated with fitting ceremonies

on Feb. 22. It is a handsome structure of stone and pressed brick, a memorial to Mrs. Elizabeth C. Hunnewell, whose bequest of \$20,000 made its erection possible. Mrs. Hunnewell died Feb. 4, 1896, bequeathing to the city of Owatonna the specific sum of \$10,000 and two-fifths of the moiety of her estate, which amounted to \$10,000 more. Of this bequest \$5000 was to be used to pay the last bills on a library building to cost not less than \$10,000, exclusive of the lot; the remaining \$5000, together with the residuary legacy, was to be kept forever intact as an endowment fund, the interest therefrom only to be used for the purchase of books. Moreover, the entire bequest was based on the further condition that the city of Owatonna establish a public library under the laws of the state, and provide for the perpetual maintenance and purchase of books at a cost of not less than \$5000.

In March, 1899, a proposition to issue \$10,000 library bonds was submitted to the electors of Owatonna and carried by a very large majority. A library board was appointed by the city council, and its members immediately set to work to examine plans of library buildings. After investigating the matter thoroughly, the board came to the conclusion that they had not sufficient funds to construct and furnish a library suitable to the needs of the city, and they asked the citizens to vote \$5000 in additional bonds. This proposition also carried with little opposition. The sum of \$1000 was raised by a tax levy, and a number of citizens came forward and offered to advance the board \$5000 so that the contract for the construction of the building could be let immediately.

The building was designed by Smith & Guttersen, architects, of Des Moines, and the books were purchased with the assistance of Miss A. L. Sargent, of the Medford (Mass.) Public Library, at a cost of about \$5000. The library is classified by the Cutter Expansive system.

The reading-room and delivery-room occupy the first floor of the building. They are large and well lighted, and the ceiling is supported by a colonnade of eight columns. The rooms are finished in oak and the walls are painted and frescoed. In the second story the board has provided an art-room, and they have asked that it be used as a museum where curios of local interest and old manuscripts and other articles valuable as relics may be placed in safe keeping. It was recommended by the building committee of the library board that the basement be used as a children's room, but as the board had already exhausted all its resources, it could not furnish this department. The ladies of the Cosmopolitan and Nineteenth Century clubs offered to defray the expense, and their offer was accepted; they have already advanced several hundred dollars for this purpose. By means of the interest accruing from the residuary legacy the library board will be able to add 1000 books each year, and the remainder of the income from this source will be used to meet the current expenses. Miss Mary L. Weber, of Owatonna, has been appointed librarian.

Philadelphia F. L. A new branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia was opened March 8, at Paschalville, in the southwestern part of the city. The ground floor of a house at the corner of 70th street and Woodland avenue has been placed at the disposal of the trustees, rent free, and the remainder of the building is occupied by a very active new local society, entitled the Progressive Association. The quarters of the library are divided into a circulation-room, a room for boys and men, a women's reading-room, and a room for the librarian-in charge, to which office Miss Alice Kelso, recently of the College Settlement branch, has been appointed. The rooms have been fitted up with all the appliances for a free library, and about 2500 books have been cataloged and placed upon the shelves. The rooms are not very large, but they were filled to overflowing. The speakers were J. G. Rosengarten, president of the board of trustees of the library; John Thomson, the librarian, and Maurice Fels. The speakers described the best way to use a library, and some of the methods adopted by readers to make the fullest use of the library. The necessity of the proper care of the books was enforced by an actual example: a young reader took such care of her books that the librarian asked her where she kept them, and was much astonished to be told, "In a refrigerator, teacher!" the reason for the selection of such a place being that it was "the only place baby could not get at." Mr. Fels explained in detail the objects of the proposed Progressive Association and the various classes and subdivisions of work that that institution proposed to undertake. The rooms were tastefully decorated, about 300 readers' cards were taken out on the first day, and the new branch started with all promise of success.

It is anticipated that the opening of the H. Josephine Widener Memorial Branch will take place in the month of April. It is proposed to use this latter branch as a reference library.

The Thomas Holme branch of the Free Library, in the suburb of Holmesburg, was opened with interesting exercises on the evening of March 27. Attractive and adequate quarters have been made for the library in the old hall of the Holmesburg Athenæum, in which the local library, maintained for many years past, is now merged with the Free Library collection; the former contains about 25,000 volumes, many of them of much interest.

Providence (R. I.) Athenæum. In the current (April) issue of the *Providence Library Bulletin* appears the following note regarding the mention of Mr. J. Le Roy Harrison's connection with the Paris library exhibit, made in the March number: "The publishers beg leave to state that the editor of the *Bulletin* was in no way responsible for the editorial matter on the third page of the March *Bulletin*. This editorial was inserted by the publishers on their own responsibility, and entirely without the knowledge of Mr. Harrison. We take this first opportunity to counteract the impression which may have been created by publication of the editorial referred to."

St. Joseph (Mo.) F. P. L. A fine new library building is assured by the results of the special election on March 31, when a proposition to erect a \$100,000 building for the library was carried by a large majority. The proposition was submitted by the school board, and provides for the issue of school bonds for the purpose. The school board, however, is in no way concerned with the management of the library. The vote stood 2512 to 561 in favor of the library. The matter had aroused general public interest, and good work in its support was done through the various commercial and trade organizations of the city, while to the enthusiasm and energy of Mr. Wright, the librarian, much of the final success of the measure must be attributed.

Sandusky, O. The Library Building Fund Association has provided a site for the \$50,000 Carnegie Library. The property, fronting on the court-house square, has been transferred wholly free of incumbrance; it cost \$9000, and is the best site available in the city.

Steubenville, O. The trustees of the newly established Carnegie Library have employed Alden & Harlow, of Pittsburgh, to prepare plans for the \$50,000 building.

Taunton (Mass.) P. L. (34th rpt.—year ending Nov. 30, '99.) Added 1610; total, 46,115. Issued 73,719 (fict. 41,094; juv. 17,582). New registration 379; total registration (since 1866) 14,799.

Utica (N. Y.) P. L. A meeting of the library trustees was held on March 5, to consider the matter of a new public library for Utica. A site has already been purchased, which will be turned over to the city when it is assured that a suitable new library building will be erected on it and the contracts are let. The trustees have spent some time in looking over new libraries in other cities. The meeting was for the purpose of determining how much money will be necessary for the erection of a suitable building. The sum determined upon was \$165,000, and it was resolved to have drawn as soon as possible and to send to the legislature a bill authorizing the city to raise this amount on bonds for this specific purpose. The bill is not to become operative until it is submitted to a vote of the electors at the next annual election and is carried by a majority vote. The bill referred to was introduced in the legislature on March 8 by Senator Coggeshall. The site secured for the building is a fine one, extending from Genesee street to Park avenue, about 200 x 230 feet. It is somewhat further uptown than the present quarters, but within better walking distance of the home part of the city.

Watertown (Mass.) F. P. L. (32d rpt.) Added 482; total 25,552. Issued, home use 34,196 (fict. and juv. 22,870), lib. use 6359. New cards issued 296; total cards in use 8112. Receipts \$4619.02; expenses \$4564.41.

Many much-needed changes have been made practicable by the Hunnewell addition to the building. The circulation shows a slight gain, and the use of the reading-room increases

steadily. A re-registration will soon be made, the first since the establishment of the library. Use of library books by the schools is always encouraged, and Mr. Whitney acknowledges "the evidence seen in the reading of many young people of conscientious and faithful work done for pupils by the teachers of many of the schools."

Gifts and Bequests.

Blairsville, Pa. Andrew Carnegie has made a formal offer to donate \$15,000 for a free library for Blairsville, provided the citizens furnish a site and agree to maintain it.

Boston P. L. The trustees have received from Andrew Carnegie a promise to give annually the sum of \$100, to be devoted to purchasing additional books for the Galatea collection, relating to the social, educational, and industrial progress of women.

Another gift of literary interest has been received by the library, from Mrs. Rufus Griswold, of Bangor, Me. This is the collection of manuscript letters left by her husband, and published in part a year or two ago by her son, the late W. M. Griswold. The collection, which covers the period 1830-70, includes 30 letters from Horace Greeley, 19 from Poe, and 23 from Whittier, and many other letters from well-known literary persons of the time. The library has also received from Col. T. W. Higginson a valuable collection of John Brown's letters.

Bradford, Pa. Andrew Carnegie has offered to give to Bradford \$25,000 for a public library building, on condition that the city furnish a site and guarantee an annual appropriation of \$300 for maintenance.

Evanston (Ill.) P. L. The board of directors of the library has announced a gift of \$100,000 from C. F. Grey, for the purpose of putting up a new library building. The gift is made on the condition that the board provides a suitable site. The need of a new building was discussed one year ago, but was dropped because the city would not appropriate funds for its erection.

Gouverneur, N. Y. Reading-Room Assoc. Hon. Newton Aldrich, of Gouverneur, has offered to build for a public library building, on the present reading-room site, a structure that shall not cost less than \$5000.

Grove City, Pa. Andrew Carnegie has confirmed the report that he is to establish a free library in Grove City. This is one of the towns located on the Pittsburg, Bessemer, and Lake Erie Railroad, which about two years ago passed into the control of Mr. Carnegie. It is expected that the shops of that road will be erected at Grove City, in which case many of the employees will have the advantage of the library. The town council has already guaranteed the support of the library and a central site has been secured.

Hackensack, N. J. On April 2 Senator W. M. Johnson offered to give to the city a public li-

brary building, to cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000. The building is to stand at Main and Camden streets, next to the Oritani Field Club grounds, and designs are already being drawn by Rossiter & Wright, of New York. It will be fireproof, with shelf-room for 20,000 volumes, and a hall which it is proposed to convert into a local museum. Senator Johnson's hope is that when the building is ready the library will be made free, and he wishes to have it continued under the management of the Hackensack Library Association, which has kept the present library up under discouraging conditions. The new library will be under the control of a board of trustees.

Madison, N. J. D. Willis James, of Madison, has given to that town a stone library building and site, valued in all at \$125,000. If for any reason at any time the library should lapse into disuse for a period of three years, it is to be transferred to the trustees of Princeton University, and the other property will simultaneously be given with it.

Marinette, Wis. On Feb. 15 it was announced that Isaac Stephenson, of Marinette, had offered to give to that city a \$50,000 library building, and to furnish a site in a central location. Plans for the building are now being drawn; the limit of \$50,000 will, if Mr. Stephenson thinks proper, be raised to \$75,000.

Meredith, N. H. B. M. Smith, of Meredith, has offered to erect a public memorial library for the town, to cost not less than \$10,000, on condition that the town purchase for the purpose a given site and that the building be known as the B. M. Smith Memorial Library.

Paterson (N. J.) P. L. Mrs. Mary E. Ryle, of Paterson, has offered to give \$15,000 to pay for an addition to the library building. Mrs. Ryle gave the building and its site to the city about 10 years ago. Plans for the addition have been made, and it is hoped it may be ready for use next fall. Including the furnishing, this addition to the building will cost at least \$20,000, but the trustees have a building fund amounting to about \$700, that has accumulated during the last dozen years by occasional small sums saved from the annual income.

Tulane Univ., New Orleans. Mrs. F. W. Tilton has placed in trust the sum of \$50,000, to be devoted to the erection and endowment of a library building for Tulane University, to be known as the F. W. Tilton Memorial Library.

Wooster (O.) Univ. L., H. C. Frick, of Pittsburgh, on March 8 added \$10,000 more to his \$25,000 donation to Wooster University for a library building. All bids for the erection of the building had been rejected because they were too high, and the additional subscription was given to cover the advance in building material.

Valparaiso, Ind. Mrs. Hubbard Hunt, who died on Feb. 20, has bequeathed to Valparaiso her handsome brick residence to be used as a public library.

Librarians.

BROOKS, Miss Florence, has been appointed librarian of the Museum of Archaeology and Palaeontology of the University of Pennsylvania. Miss Brooks was for several years reference librarian in charge of the reading-room at the Newberry Library, Chicago.

CAMPBELL, Frank, for many years a member of the staff of the British Museum Library, has retired from that position, and will spend some time in travel in the East. Mr. Campbell has for some time been engaged in the compilation of a catalog of documents relating to the Indian empire, and has in hand other bibliographical work in that direction. Mr. Campbell has been a prolific and indefatigable worker in the field of bibliography, and a warm champion of the cause of international bibliography, and his numerous monographs and pamphlets upon the subject are familiar to library students. It is hoped that his rest from official duties will result in improved health and opportunity for literary and bibliographical work.

GRACIE, Miss Helen B., New York State Library School, has been appointed general assistant in the Worcester Public Library, working mainly in the reference department.

FORSYTH, Walter G., has resigned his position at the Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University, and has been appointed librarian of Lafayette College, Easton, Pa.

KITE, William, for over 30 years librarian of the Friends' Library of Germantown, Philadelphia, died at his home in Germantown on Feb. 10, 1900. Mr. Kite was probably, with the exception of Frederick Saunders, one of the oldest ex-librarians in the country, having been born in Philadelphia Oct. 30, 1810. He had been a member of the American Library Association since 1878, and was one of the earliest members of the Pennsylvania Library Club. In his early life Mr. Kite was a printer and publisher; later, on account of failing health, he carried on a farm near Birmingham, Pa., and in 1868 he removed to Germantown and was appointed librarian of the Friends' Library. He served in this post continuously from 1868 to 1898, when he became librarian emeritus, and through his earnestness and interest the library was developed from a small nucleus to a collection of size and value in a building of its own. Mr. Kite was an active and interested member of the Society of Friends, in which he had been for many years a minister; he was at one time a manager of the Apprentices' Library of Philadelphia, and was long a member of the Franklin Institute.

Of William Kite's work as a librarian, Prof. Allen C. Thomas, of Haverford College, spoke as follows, at the joint library meeting in Washington, March 31:

"He had a high idea of the duties and privileges of his position. There was no doubt whatever in his mind that a librarian should direct the reading of those who came under his influence. He looked upon good books as a

great moral force, and in every way did his best not only to put good reading before others, but also to induce them to read what was instructive and helpful to their better nature. In his earlier days of service he was accustomed to go among the factory hands and try to persuade them to come to the library and read; by his pleasant manners and genuine interest in their welfare, he often succeeded.

"His special hobby was to build up a library *without fiction*. Those who have heard him speak on this subject will remember how eloquently he spoke on this his favorite theme. A carefully written paper, published in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, vol. i., p. 277-279, sets forth his views very clearly. The managers of the Friends' Library were in accord with his views or gave him permission to carry them out, so that, to this day, that library possesses no fiction—even periodicals like *Harper's*, the *Century* and the *Atlantic* being excluded on account of the novels in them. Differing from William Kite on this subject, as we must do, one can still admire his enthusiasm and honor the aim which he placed before himself—to furnish truthful, instructive, and attractive reading to old and young. He followed this aim faithfully for 30 years.

"Two general remarks may be made concerning William Kite's position in regard to fiction: (1) He had no knowledge from personal experience of what fiction was, as he himself acknowledged that he had never read a novel in his life. (2) He generalized from insufficient data: for he based his conclusions upon those persons to whom he knew novel-reading had been injurious, but wholly left out of consideration those who had read fiction without injury, and with benefit. Besides these main positions there was a third, perhaps hardly acknowledged, that as a matter of course, a work of the imagination must be unreal, and hence untruthful."

LINDERFELT, Dr. Klas August, formerly librarian of the Milwaukee (Wis.) Public Library, died in Paris on March 18, 1900. Dr. Linderfelt was born in Sweden in 1847. At 11 years of age he was orphaned, his mother having died before he was four years of age and his father before he entered upon his 11th year. He then entered the family of an uncle, who so far as he was able seconded young Linderfelt's insatiate ambition to acquire a thorough education—an ambition which was accomplished with painful effort. In 1870 he determined to seek his fortune in America, and came to Milwaukee, where, endowed with fine talents, well educated, but almost penniless, he was obliged to accept a position as instructor in Greek and Latin in the Milwaukee College at \$400 a year. Here he worked indefatigably, at times literally day and night, and succeeded in increasing his income to \$600 when he married. But his scant earnings were less than his expenses, and little by little he became involved in debt. In 1880 he was appointed librarian of the newly established Milwaukee Public Library, which was opened in May of that year,

at an income double that he had been receiving. Here, however, he was still weighed down by the burden of debt, and when his creditors became importunate he was tempted to avert immediate misfortune by inviting inevitable ruin in another form, and entered upon a series of speculations from the city funds under his charge. In April, 1892, he was arrested on the charge of appropriating about \$10,000, though after the first excitement had subsided the amount was found to be considerably less. In June he was discharged from custody, sentence having been suspended. He then returned to Sweden, where he remained a short time, going then to Paris, where he entered upon the study of medicine. In time he obtained his degree, and he was for several years past editorially connected with *La Semaine Médicale*, published in Paris. For this he had recently prepared a systematic index, 1880-1898, to appear in 1900, which was to be practically a world bibliography of important medical articles for that period. He made a short trip to America in November last.

Dr. Linderfelt, in his 12 years of library administration, won a permanent place among eminent American librarians. A man of brilliant capacities and devoted to his calling, he was practically the creator of the Milwaukee Public Library, which he developed to a high efficiency; he enriched library science in general in many directions, and his name will be permanently associated with his manual of "Eclectic card catalog rules," one of the standard tools of the profession. From his first connection with the Milwaukee Public Library he was actively interested in the work and aims of the American Library Association and attended a number of its conferences. He served as councillor and as vice-president, and at the San Francisco conference in 1891 was elected president, an office which he resigned without having performed its full duties a few months later, when the news of his fall shocked and saddened the whole library world. Personally, Dr. Linderfelt was a man of no pretensions and of engaging qualities. His weakness in not facing courageously the difficulties that confronted him was the one blot on his character, and dearly did he pay the penalty. His funeral services were held from St. Luke's American Chapel, Paris.

Cataloging and Classification.

ANNUAL AMERICAN CATALOGUE, 1899; being the full titles, with descriptive notes, of all books recorded in *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1899, with author, title, and subject index, publishers' annual lists, and directory of publishers, [fifth supplement to the American Catalogue, 1890-95.] N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1900. c. 22+241+166 p. O. hf. leath., \$3.50.

This issue includes four pages of statistics of book production in the United States, in Eng-

land, in France, and in Italy, and articles on the book production of the world in 1898-99, and on the work of the United States Copyright Office.

The *CARNEGIE (Pittsburgh) L. Bulletin* for March contains a further instalment of its reading lists on contemporary biography, devoted to musicians.

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Bulletin of books added, 1889. Cincinnati, 1900. 100 p. 1. Q.

The quarterly bulletins of the year, bound with author index appended.

CLASSIFICATION FOR PHYSICAL TRAINING. The librarian of the International Y. M. C. A. Training School, Springfield, Mass. (J. T. Bowne), has prepared an adaptation of the Decimal classification for physical training, based upon the large collection of works on this subject owned by the school. The notation, which is carefully worked out in detail, is prefixed by the letter P. The scheme is arranged under the main headings: Man—his physical, mental, spiritual, and social natures and their inter-relations; Exercises—gymnastic, athletic, and aquatic; Organization—Buildings, fields, and equipment; and History. These classes are again divided into more than 250 sub-classes, covering the varied branches of the subject, and permitting the close classification of a wide variety of material—pamphlets, clippings, circulars, photographs, etc. Copies of the complete scheme will be sent postpaid for 50 cents.

DETROIT (Mich.) P. L. Bulletin no. 11: Books added, 1899. Detroit, Mich., 1899. 178 p. O.

GROSVENOR L., *Buffalo, N. Y.* Bulletin no. 1, 1900: An indexed catalogue of books in the department of local history and genealogy. [Buffalo,] March 1, 1900. 36 p. O.

Arranged in six divisions: 1, state, county, and town histories, etc., alphabetically by author, intended for use with Durrie's index; 2, index to localities in list preceding; 3, family histories, alphabetically by families; 4, heraldry; 5, names and their derivation; 6, genealogical guides, indexes, bibliographies. A well-printed list.

HERRICK, Albert B. Decimal indexes of mechanical literature. (*In Engineering Record*, March 10, 1900. 41: 234.) 2 col. il.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for March contains a good classed (5-page) reading list on Oliver Cromwell.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. Library bulletin, Feb., 1900. Accessions, Oct.—Dec., 1899. 24 p. [printed on one side] O.

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by Library of Congress, Catalogue Department:

Aurand, Samuel Herbert (Botanical materia medica and pharmacology);

Benedict, Martin Green (The primary speller);

Black, Charles Clarke (Law and practice in accident cases);

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Hullard, Frank Dearborn (The apistophilon, a nemesis of faith);

Carleton, Leroy Thomas (Carleton's digest of the Maine fish and game laws, 1899);

Carpenter, Frank George (Carpenter's geographical reader, South America);

Chadman, Charles Erhart (Personal rights and the domestic relations);

— (Principles of the law of contract and of partnership);

Chester, Samuel Hall (Lights and shadows of mission work in the far east);

Converse, Clarence Conyers (Mr. Isolate of Lonelyville);

Converse, James Booth (Uncle Sam's Bible);

Cox, Ulysses Orange (A syllabus of elementary physiology);

Davis, Achilles Edward (The refraction of the eye . . .);

Doyle, Charles William (The shadow of Quong Lung);

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Hartpence, John Armitage (Requirements for admission to the New Jersey bar);

Henning, Gustavus Charles, *translator of* Martens, Adolf (Handbook of testing materials 2 v.);

Henry, Clifford Elmore (A manual of the osteopathic treatment of diseases of the eye);

Hogan, John Baptist (Daily thoughts for priests.

Holland, James William (The urine);

Holmes, Calvin Pratt (Probate law and practice of the state of Iowa);

Honeyman, Abraham Van Doren, *editor of* (From America to the Orient);

Humphry, Charlotte Eliza (How to be pretty though plain);

Ingham, John Hall (The law of animals);

Ingraham, John Phillips Thurston (Mother's home talks with her little folks);

Porter, Robert Peel, is an error; this should be Robert Percival Porter.

Bibliography.

ALPS. Ferrand, Henri. *Etudes de bibliographie alpine en 1898*. Grenoble, Allier frères, 1900. 45 p. 8°.

Reprinted from *Annuaire de la Société des Touristes du Dauphiné*.

COLLEGES. University of the State of New York. State Library bulletin, Bibliography no. 19, December, 1899. Collegelibraries in the United States: contribution toward a bibliography, by Hugh Williams. Albany, 1899. p. 609-656. O. 10c.

A useful publication in a field where no general guide of the sort has been heretofore available. "The arrangement is alphabetic under the heads 'General articles' and 'Individual colleges.' Under each college historical and descriptive matter relating to the library has been placed first, and where the amount of material made it advisable a separate group has been made of reports, circulars, etc., arranged chronologically; these are followed by library catalogs, bulletins, etc., in chronologic order."

DELISLE, Léopold. *Vente de manuscrits du comte d'Ashburnham: Catalogue of a portion of a collection of manuscripts known as the appendix made by the late earl of Ashburnham, etc.* Paris, Imprimerie Nationale. 40 p. 4°.

Reprinted from *Journal des Savants*.

EPIGRAPHY. Cagnat, R. *Revue des publications épigraphiques relatives à l'antiquité romaine*. Angers, Paris, Leroux. 24 p. 8°.

FAZIO, Edgardo. *Biblioteconomia: classificazione, collocazione e cataloghi*. Napoli, Tramontano, 1899. 17 p. 8°.

FITZGERALD, E. Prideaux, W. F. Notes for a bibliography of Edward Fitzgerald. (*In Notes and Queries*, March 17, 1900, p. 201-204; March 24, p. 221-224.)

This bibliography (not yet completed) is confined to the works printed in Fitzgerald's lifetime, with the exception of his "Letters and literary remains."

LIVINGSTON, Luther S., comp. *American book-prices current: a record of books, manuscripts, and autographs sold at auction in New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, from September 1, 1898, to September 1, 1899, with the prices realized*. N. Y., Dodd, Mead & Co., 1899. 13 + 566 p. 8°.

This, the fifth volume of "American book-prices current," records the sale of 8559 lots, a gain of 1312 over 1898. The highest price recorded for any one lot is \$480, which was the amount received for the *Massachusetts Magazine*, volumes 1-8 (all published). The issue of

the Kelmscott Press are entered this year, for the first time, under that heading.

LUCHAIRE, Achille. *Etudes sur quelques manuscrits de Rome et de Paris*. Paris, Felix Alcan, 1900. 181 p. 8°. 6 fr.

MEDINA, Jose Toribio. *Biblioteca hispano-chilena (1523-1817)*. Tomo III. Santiago [Leipzig, Karl W. Hiersemann,] 1899. 575 p. 4°. 40 m.

STEEL WORKS. Brearley, Harry. A bibliography of steel works analysis. *Concluded*. (*In Chemical News*, Feb. 16, 1900. 81: 76-77.)

This instalment deals with molybdenum. Over 300 titles have been listed in this bibliography of steel works analysis.

TUMORS. Helmuth, Wm. Tod. Tumors of the abdominal wall. (*In North American Journal of Homœopathy*, March, 1900. 3d series. 15: 162-178.)

Contains a bibliography of over 400 titles.

WELSH BIBLIOGRAPHY. A current bibliography of all new books in Welsh or relating to Wales will in future be included in the *Public Library Journal*, issued quarterly by the Cardiff and Penarth (Wales) Free Libraries, of which John Ballinger is librarian.

INDEXES.

JORDELL, D., ed. *Répertoire bibliographique des principales revues françaises pour l'année 1898*. 2e année. Paris, Per Lamm, [N. Y., Lemcke & Buechner,] 1900. 12 + 272 + 6 p. O.

The first volume of this important work, covering the French periodicals for 1897, appeared in 1898 (*see* L. J., 23: 634). The present issue is a worthy successor, somewhat augmented in size, and maintaining the previous high standard of excellence in its compactness and simplicity of arrangement. It indexes 257 periodicals, as against 146 of the former volume, and contains at a rough estimate about 18,000 entries, of which about 11,000 are subject entries. The division into subject and author lists is maintained, and thorough and painstaking work seems evident throughout. A new feature of interest is appended in a tabulation of the periodicals indexed, giving editor and editorial address of each, with mode of publication—quarterly, monthly, etc.—price per number, and subscription price. This is in addition to the regular prefatory list of periodicals indexed. The index should be a valuable aid in most American libraries, and the excellent work of M. Jordell deserves cordial recognition.

FLETCHER, W: L., and Bowker, R: R. *Annual literary index, 1899; including periodicals, American and English; essays, book-chapters, etc.; with author-index, bibliographies, necrology, and index to dates of principal events*. N. Y., Office of *The Publishers' Weekly*, 1900. 8 + 270 p. O. \$3.50.



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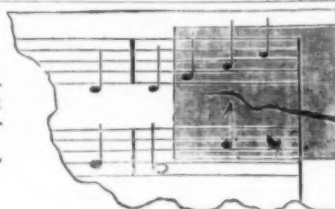
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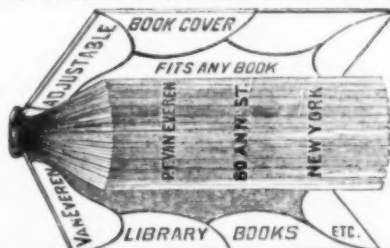
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